

STARS AND STRIPES.®

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Free to Deployed Areas

NATO forms force to counter Russia threat

Multinational rapid-reaction troops to be stationed at reception bases in Eastern Europe

By JOHN VANDIVER
Stars and Stripes

NATO leaders agreed Friday to position several thousand troops at military bases in Eastern Europe to shore up alliance defenses in response to Russia's incursions in Ukraine.

Among the steps agreed to by leaders of the alliance's 28 member nations during a two-day summit in Wales: NATO will establish a new command and control headquarters in the region, build a "spearhead" rapid-reaction force and take up residence at a series of "reception" bases

where equipment also can be placed in advance.

"This decision sends a clear message: NATO protects all allies, at all times," NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen said as the summit drew to a close. "And it sends a clear message to any potential

aggressor: should you even think of attacking one ally, you will be facing the whole alliance."

Since Russia annexed the Crimean peninsula from Ukraine earlier this year and subsequently backed pro-Russian separatists in eastern Ukraine, NATO member countries on or close to

Russia's borders have been seeking a commitment from the alliance that it will honor Article 5 in the NATO charter, which stipulates that an attack on one member will be met with a response by all.

SEE NATO ON PAGE 6



CRISIS IN UKRAINE

CEASE-FIRE REACHED

President announces deal with pro-Russia rebels Page 6

SERGEI GRIITS/AP

Ukrainian soldiers ride a tank in the port city of Mariupol in southeastern Ukraine on Friday. The Ukrainian government and pro-Russia separatists signed a cease-fire agreement Friday, raising hopes for an end to months of fighting in the country's east.

Core coalition emerges to fight against Islamic State

By LOLITA C. BALDOR
The Associated Press

NEWPORT, Wales — America's top diplomatic and defense leaders on Friday pressed a core coalition of 10 nations to summon the will to go after the Islamic State group in Iraq by using military force and squeezing the militants' financial resources, and they insisted the western nations build a plan by the time the U.N. General Assembly meets in about two weeks.

In a private meeting with the foreign and defense ministers from the United Kingdom, France, Australia, Germany, Canada, Turkey, Italy, Poland and Denmark, Secretary of State John Kerry said leaders need a clear strategy and a solid idea about what each country will contribute to the fight. And, while noting that many won't be willing to engage in military strikes, he said they can instead provide intelligence, equipment, ammunition or weapons.

"We have the technology, we have the know-how," Kerry said. "What we need is obviously the willpower to make sure that we are steady and stay at this."

Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel, sitting alongside Kerry, said the group forms a loose coalition that will be needed to face the insurgent challenge.

SEE COALITION ON PAGE 7

NFL

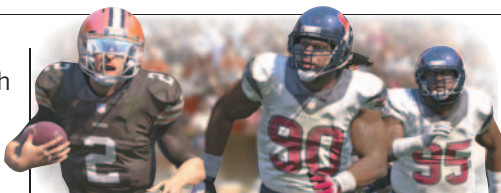
Seattle pounds Green Bay in season opener

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US confirms death of militant leader in Somalia strikes

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'Madden 15' scores big with solid gameplay

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Afghanistan: Miscommunication blamed in friendly-fire bombing » Page 2

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"It is really pathetic. We are not equipped to face the situation."

— A nurse at a hospital in Monrovia, Liberia's capital, who said she and her colleagues are cutting up old uniforms and tying them over their faces for protection because of a lack of supplies to deal with Ebola patients

See story on Page 11

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5. SACEUR: Allies must prepare for Russia 'hybrid war'

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Science & Medicine
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MILITARY

Report: Friendly-fire deaths 'avoidable'

By MATT MILLHAM
Stars and Stripes

A military investigation into the "friendly-fire" deaths of five U.S. soldiers and an Afghan counterpoint to avoidable mistakes by air and ground forces as the root causes of the incident.

The June 9 bombing, among the deadliest friendly-fire incidents in the nearly 13-year war in Afghanistan, involved an American B-1B Lancer, which dropped two guided bombs onto U.S. and Afghan forces engaged in a fire-fight with insurgents.

Air Force Maj. Gen. Jeffrey L. Harrington wrote in his report — a heavily redacted version of which was released Thursday by U.S. Central Command — that key personnel "collectively failed to effectively execute the fundamentals," which led to friendly forces' being targeted by the bomber. "While this complex combat situation presented a challenging set of circumstances, had the team understood their system's capabilities, executed standard tactics, techniques and procedures and communicated effectively, this

tragic incident was avoidable."

Staff Sgt. Scott R. Studenmund, 24; Staff Sgt. Jason A. McDonald, 28; Spc. Justin R. Helton, 25; Cpl. Aaron S. Clause, 22; and Pvt. Aaron S. Toppen, 19, were all killed in the airstrike, along with Afghan army Sgt. Gulbuddin Ghulam Sakhi.

The report cites various mistakes and personnel contributing to the tragedy.

The incident occurred at the end of a daylight mission to disrupt insurgents ahead of Afghanistan's runoff election. Three elements of American conventional and Special Forces and Afghan soldiers landed in Zabul's Arghandab district about 2:30 a.m. Insurgents harassed the troops with gunfire throughout the day as they cleared a number of villages into the evening.

Just before 8 p.m., near the end of the mission, insurgents attacked one of the three elements at its pickup point at the bottom of a valley.

McDonald sent five soldiers, including an Afghan, to higher ground to maneuver on the enemy

while a joint terminal attack controller, or JTAC, with a command element about a kilometer away radioed to the B-1B crew that troops on the ground were under attack.

Because of the length of the mission, the terrain, a lack of mission preparation and other factors, the operation was plagued by radio failures, the report said.

Still, Harrington found the command element received a transmission from McDonald's position that soldiers had moved from their pickup position to engage the enemy, but this information "was not effectively communicated to the JTAC" or the ground force commander. This "led to the team incorrectly identifying the muzzle flashes on the ridgeline as enemy activity — an incorrect target identification that the aircraft accepted."

The muzzle flashes the aircraft identified were coming from the five-man team on top of a ridgeline about 150 meters from their main element.

This misidentification was compounded by another error.

All of the operation's key leaders, including the ground commander, JTAC and the B-1B's aircrew, believed that the plane's targeting pod could detect the ground force's infrared strobes. The JTAC mentioned to the aircrew more than once that all friendly forces were marked with the devices. The aircrew assured the JTAC that it could identify them.

Just before the bombing, McDonald ascended the ridgeline with his IR strobe to support the five soldiers already there.

"In fact, the aircraft's targeting pod was not capable of detecting the marking devices," the report says.

Five of the men on the ridgeline are believed to have died instantly. Another, badly wounded, died before a medical evacuation helicopter arrived.

The Associated Press reported that the Army forwarded the report to its Special Operations Command and the Air Force to consider whether punitive action should be taken.

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Aircrews sweeten relief for Iraqi city

By CARLO MUNOZ
Stars and Stripes

A number of U.S. aircrews flying humanitarian assistance missions over the northern Iraqi city of Amerli made a sweet contribution to the relief packages dropped into the besieged town — candy.

Aircrews with the 816th and 746th Expeditionary Airlift Squadrons, based out of Air Forces Central Command, added their own personal care packages to the over 100 humanitarian assistance drops into Amerli as part of the U.S.-led relief efforts.

Tucked into the massive pallets of water and meals ready-to-eat were garbage bags full of Skittles, Starbursts and other assorted candies and sweets.

Only those two squadrons, among the various Air Force units participating in relief operations in Amerli, took on the practice of loading and delivering the candy drops, Air Forces Central

Command spokeswoman Capt. Malinda Singleton said.

The decision was a squadron-level one, said Singleton, who noted that the aircrews may include in future airdrops other additions besides sweets.

"Who knows what they may choose to (drop) next time," she said.

The airdrops were part of a two-pronged U.S. air campaign to back Iraqi security forces fighting to push militants from the Islamic State out of Amerli. American warplanes launched repeated airstrikes against IS positions in and around the area, enabling Iraqi government forces and Kurdish troops to break the siege. The militants had threatened to slaughter 15,000 ethnic Turkmen residents, whom they regard as infidels because they are Shiite Muslims.

For his part, Air Force Master Sgt. Stephen Brown, with the 816th EAS, said the candy drops

were just a small thing his aircrew could do to make a devastating situation somewhat better.

"I can just imagine being in the shoes of these parents down there. Not being able to provide much during a time of war would be heartbreaking," he told an Air Force reporter earlier this week.

"This could be something that will make a dire situation a little brighter, even if it's just for a few moments," he added.

While it remains unclear how long the U.S. air mission in northern Iraq will last, Air Force officials expect the units to continue the practice up until the end of their deployment.

Singleton declined to say how long both Air Force units would be in northern Iraq as part of the ongoing humanitarian assistance mission there. She said that expeditionary airlift squadrons usually conduct two- to four-month rotations.

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DOD identifies soldier killed in Afghanistan

The Pentagon has identified a soldier killed Thursday in an enemy attack in southeastern Afghanistan.

Spc. Brian K. Arsenault, 28, of Northborough, Mass., died from his injuries after his unit came under attack with small-arms fire in Ghazni province, according to a Defense Department release. He was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 504th Infantry Regiment, part of the 82nd Airborne Division.

Arsenault is the fourth U.S. soldier killed in Afghanistan in the past month and the second from the 1-504.

Roughly 44,000 international troops remain in Afghanistan — nearly 30,000 of them Americans — as the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force approaches the end of its combat mission this year. Plans call for a residual training and advising force of about 15,000 troops to remain after 2014.

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MILITARY



Courtesy of the Defense Department

A Washington think tank report tallied up expected defense budget shortfalls over the coming years.

Analyst: DOD to see up to \$300B shortfall under sequestration law

By CHRIS CARROLL

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Department of Defense will be hundreds of billions of dollars short of what's needed to enact the nation's official defense strategy in coming years, a new report on the nation's defense budget released Thursday predicts.

To execute programs and plans laid out in budget and strategy documents, DOD will need \$200 billion to \$300 billion more than allowed by automatic spending limits known as sequestration, according to the report by Todd Harrison, senior fellow at the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments, a nonpartisan Washington think tank.

And the analysis doesn't take into account the demands of new and intensified conflicts in places such as Ukraine or Iraq, where the United States has been pulled back into airborne combat missions. Since June, the U.S. has spent some \$600 million on limited airstrikes and an advisory mission aimed at halting the advance of Islamist insurgents.

And earlier this week in Estonia — a nation nervous that neighboring Russia is intent on dragging it back into a revived Soviet sphere — President Barack Obama hammered home the point that the United States would stand firmly behind all its NATO allies.

The United States now must decide whether to provide more defense funding or trim military missions — and potentially tell some partners overseas they're on their own, Harrison said.

"We're kind of at a fork in the road in the strategy-budget process," he told reporters Thursday in Washington.

Sequestration calls for about \$1 trillion less in defense spending over a decade than defense planners had expected before 2011, when the cuts became law. As a result, the U.S. military now forecasts declining end strengths, reduced unit readiness and curtailed modernization of weapons systems.

The 2012 defense strategy guidance called for a shift of military emphasis and resources from the Middle East to Asia, where a resurgent China has been building its military and flexing its muscle in territorial disputes with Japan, Vietnam and other countries.

The strategy was upheld this year by the Quadrennial Defense Report, which has been assailed by Republicans in Congress who say the document is geared more toward presenting an affordable strategic assessment — as opposed

to a realistic one — in a time of falling defense spending.

'We're kind of at a fork in the road in the strategy-budget process.'

Todd Harrison

Strategic and Budgetary Assessments

appears to be caught between two approaches for addressing its strategy-resource mismatch," Harrison wrote. "It has not budgeted enough to fully resource the defense program called for by its strategy, nor has it revised its strategy and defense program to fit within the budget constraints set by Congress."

Harrison tallied up expected defense shortfalls to reach his estimate of \$200 billion to \$300 billion.

Current budget limits won't fund enough troops or warships to enact the defense strategy, he said. The Army plans to cut its active-duty end strength to 450,000 by 2019, while the Marines plan to level off at 182,000. But critics say the current budget limits won't even support those reduced levels.

"Assuming these force levels

are needed to execute the strategy at an 'acceptable' level of risk, the budget appears to be roughly \$20 billion short" over the coming five years, the report said.

DOD also appears to be counting on \$50 billion to \$100 billion in overseas war time funding to cover core expenses in coming years, he said. Another \$31 billion in savings from controversial proposed cuts to military compensation and weapons programs are needed — cuts Harrison characterized as "unlikely to materialize."

DOD's most recent budget request assumes the Pentagon will be allowed to exceed sequestration caps by \$116 billion over five years. It's not a safe bet that a bitterly divided Congress will be able to reach an agreement to kill sequestration, even for pressing strategic reasons, he said.

"They tweaked it, but they haven't been able to turn it off," he said.

In response to a question about the CSBA report, a Pentagon spokesman said Thursday that the department was striving to find a way to avoid sequestration, which former Defense Secretary Leon Panetta referred to as a "meat ax."

"We are acutely aware that sequestration remains the law of the land, and we are working all the time with Congress to forge a way ahead here," Col. Steve Warren told reporters. If the situation persists, the United States may be forced to adjust its defense strategy, Harrison said.

"That may mean coming up with more innovative concepts for how we will conduct missions and achieve our strategic objectives around the world," he said. "It also may mean shedding priorities and divesting ourselves of some security commitments in the future."

"That's going to be painful and uncomfortable, and people aren't going to like it," he said. "But that is one way... to reduce what we're expecting the Department of Defense to do in the future."

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Army suspends chief of medical command in Wash.

By JON HARPER

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Army has suspended the commander of Western Regional Medical Command, pending the outcome of an inspector general's inquiry into the command climate there, officials said Thursday.

The suspension of Brig. Gen. John Cho went into effect Thursday.

Army spokesman Lt. Col. Alayne Conway told Stars and Stripes that the inquiry was initiated due to concerns about "leadership shortfalls."

Officials would not provide additional details about why the IG probe was launched, citing the fact that it's still ongoing.

"The Army remains committed to ensuring we have the right leaders in place to lead our organizations which provide high quality medical care to our soldiers, their families, and our retirees," Conway said in a press release.

WRMFC is responsible for providing health care in 20 states in the western U.S., and is headquartered at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash.

Army Surgeon General Lt. Gen. Patricia Horoho will assign another officer to take Cho's place while

he is sidelined, officials said.

Cho, the Army's first active-duty general officer of Korean descent, often said his heritage contributed to his decision to become a soldier. His father served in the South Korean military during the Korean War before emigrating to the United States.

"I joined the Army because my parents instilled a great sense of loyalty and appreciation for all that the United States did in support of the people of the Republic of Korea, especially during the Korean War," the

Cho

West Point graduate said last year when he received his star, according to an Army press release. "My father always said, 'Someone always has it tougher than you, so you need to take care of others.'"

Horoho praised Cho at his promotion ceremony and said he has "the right balance of character" to be a general officer.

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Shirt worn by bin Laden's killer bound for a museum

By YON BACON

USA Today

The shirt worn by the Navy SEAL who fatally shot Osama bin Laden in 2011 will be put on display at the 9/11 Memorial Museum starting Sunday.

The office of Rep. Carolyn Maloney, D-N.Y., confirmed to USA Today that the congressman has arranged for a shirt worn by one of the SEALs involved in the raid to be sent to the museum in New York.

The New York Post reported that the shirt will be identified as belonging to a member of the team, but cites unidentified sources as saying the shirt was actually worn by bin Laden's killer. The al-Qaida leader was killed in a daring raid on a compound in Abbottabad, Pakistan, on May 2, 2011.

"In honor of the courageous men and women who have put their lives on the line in war on terror — and in memory of all those we lost on 9/11 — a member of storied SEAL Team 6 has graciously donated the shirt he wore during the high-risk mission," Maloney said in a statement to

USA Today. "I hope it will serve as a tangible reminder to all those who visit the museum of the undaunted courage and steady resolve of the American men and women who risk their lives to keep our country safe from harm."

Maloney said the SEAL wishes to remain anonymous. The Post said the shooter, now retired, is so concerned about being exposed that he declined to meet with the families of 9/11 victims.

Al-Qaida operatives under bin Laden planned and executed the attacks that stunned the world on 9/11. Four planes were hijacked, with two hitting New York's World Trade Center twin towers, one hitting the Pentagon and one crashing in a Pennsylvania field. The hunt for bin Laden began soon after.

Almost 10 years later, the CIA finally tracked him to the Pakistan compound. The assault on the compound, dubbed Operation Neptune Spear, was launched from Afghanistan. Bin Laden's body was taken back to Afghanistan for identification before he was buried at sea.

Al-Qaida confirmed the death on May 6 — and vowed to avenge bin Laden's killing.

MILITARY

AF Academy punishes gymnasts for drinking

By DAN ELLIOTT
The Associated Press

DENVER — Members of the Air Force Academy men's gymnastics team were disciplined for underage drinking and unprofessional behavior, the school said Thursday.

Academy officials did not specify what the behavior was but said there were no allegations of sexual assault or illegal drug use. The academy, just outside Colorado Springs, Colo., also said it was examining allegations of in-

appropriate behavior by a basketball staff member. No other details were released.

School officials did not identify anyone on the gymnastics team who was disciplined, nor say what steps were taken, citing privacy laws.

A person with firsthand knowledge of the actions told The Associated Press those disciplined included one coach and several cadets.

The person spoke on the condition of anonymity because the

person wasn't authorized to speak publicly about the details.

The person said the misconduct spanned several months and that the last of the disciplinary actions was taken recently. The gymnastics team is still practicing and competing, the person said.

The academy did not say how many people were disciplined. The team roster lists 19 athletes.

The announcement came amid renewed scrutiny of past allegations about sexual misconduct and drug use at the school.

Two members of Congress asked the Defense Department and the civilian U.S. Office of Special Counsel last month to look into claims by a former Air Force investigator about how the academy handles sexual assault allegations. Neither agency would confirm whether it had launched an inquiry.

The academy has said the allegations had been reviewed numerous times by multiple agencies, and all concluded the academy handles sexual assault cases

appropriately.

The Air Force Academy has about 4,000 cadets. Those who graduate are awarded college degrees and are commissioned as second lieutenants.

Congress is pressuring the military to do more about sexual assaults at the Air Force, Army and Navy academies. A Defense Department report in January identified sports and club teams as an area where the academies needed to expand training on preventing sexual misconduct.

Some town hall questions to Dempsey not answered

By WYATT OLSON
Stars and Stripes

Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Gen. Martin Dempsey fielded questions during his third Facebook "town hall" meeting Thursday, a virtual method of Q&A growing in popularity with Pentagon brass.

He answered queries about the Islamic State group in northern Iraq: "While the military will certainly be part of this fight, there is no military-only solution, and it cannot be accomplished unilaterally."

Russia: "They are on a dangerous and provocative path."

U.S. troops: "I remain committed to caring for them and ensuring they are adequately compensated for their jobs and sacrifices."

But as in previous Facebook town hall meetings held by high-ranking officers, the most entertaining questions were those left unanswered.

Here's an unedited sampling from the town hall:

■ Jeff Campbell: General, do you believe that a tape measure

and body fat percentage demonstrate signs of poor leadership; thus eliminating those service members from promotion in the United States Armed Forces?

■ Marcie Dreyer: Who was it that ordered the pink slips to Military in Afghanistan

■ Ricky Quinones: Have you considered recruiting James Bond or Napoleon Solo for your mission(s)?

■ Vincent Schollen: Here is my question. General, I gave the tip of the whereabouts of Osama bin Laden in November 2010 during a phone conversation with president (Barack) Obama and his executive office, will the U.S. pay me the reward of 25 million dollars?

■ Wayne Perry: What did your plan look like when you proposed removing the \$1,000,000,000 commissary subsidy?

■ Noe Periwinkle: Dont you think its time you retire and give young blood with fresh ideas and active brains a chance to sit on that chair as well

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MARKUS RAUCHENBERGER/Courtesy of the U.S. Army

Negotiating a rope obstacle

U.S. Army Sgt. Salvador Santos, with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 18th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, negotiates a rope obstacle Thursday at the 7th Army Joint Multinational Training Command's Grafenwoehr Training Area, Germany.

Humanist group says airman denied re-enlistment over oath

By CHRIS CARROLL
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Critics say the Air Force is using a recent regulation that requires the phrase "so help me God" in a re-enlistment oath to keep a nonbelieving airman from continuing to serve.

Monica Miller, an attorney for the American Humanist Association, said the airman, stationed at Creech Air Force Base, Nev., was prevented from re-enlisting last month because he objected to the phrase, which he crossed out on a re-enlistment contract.

In a letter to the Air Force Inspector General and commanders and other personnel at Creech, Miller wrote that Supreme Court and lower court decisions over decades clearly rule out forcing government personnel to call on a deity in order to be sworn into a

job.

Should the Air Force persist in requiring the airman to take a religious oath, the AHA is prepared to sue individual commanders involved in enforcing the regulation, said Miller, who works for the AHA's Appignani Humanist Legal Center.

"The question is so well settled that they should be held personally liable for applying this requirement unconstitutionally," she said in an interview.

The airman has chosen to remain anonymous to avoid retaliation from members of the military or people scornful of his decision, Miller said.

Until last year, the Air Force instruction on re-enlistment allowed airmen to opt out of religious affirmations in the oath. According to an instruction enacted in May 2011, "Airmen may omit the

words "so help me God" if desired for personal reasons."

In October 2013, however, the instruction was revised to remove the opt-out clause. Air Force officials at the Pentagon said Friday they were still looking into the situation at Creech, but said the new instruction is based on the requirements of federal law.

"Reciting 'So help me God' in the re-enlistment and commissioning oaths is a statutory requirement under Title 10 U.S.C. §502," Air Force spokeswoman Rose Richeson said in a written statement. "Air Force Instruction 36-2606, Reenlistment in the United States Air Force, is consistent with the language mandated in 10 U.S.C. §502."

"Paragraph 5.6 was changed in October 2013 to reflect the aforementioned statutory requirement and Airmen are no longer authorized to omit the words 'So help

me God,'" she wrote.

But a military legal expert said the Air Force was far off base in its interpretation, and predicted the regulation would be quickly upended if the unnamed airman sues.

"I am confident this action would be overturned by a federal court," Eugene Fidell, a former president

of the National Institute for Military Justice who teaches military law at Yale, said in an email to Stars and Stripes. "What amazes me is that the Air Force would be tone-deaf to a direct constitutional prohibition. The affected airman should sue."

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MILITARY



Courtesy of the U.S. Army

Members of the Tennessee Army National Guard participate in training on Jan. 4 in preparation for a scheduled deployment to Iraq.

Short on cash, National Guard cuts back on drills

The Washington Post

The National Guard is short on cash, and it will cut into training this month for soldiers in the Army National Guard across the country.

The National Guard Bureau determined it is about \$101 million short in its Army National Guard personnel account, said a spokesman, Capt. John Fessler. The shortfall applies through the end of fiscal 2013, which ends Sept. 30. The financial strain was caused by fewer guardsmen deploying over-

seas, where they are paid from a different Pentagon operations account, and higher than expected attendance at training earlier this year.

"A number of things are being done to mitigate the shortfall and minimize the impact to troops and readiness," Fessler said. "Immediate actions include suspending travel, rescheduling drill, and identifying all end-of-year surplus funds while NGB seeks approval to reprogram other available year-end funds."

The budget shortfall does not

affect the Air National Guard, officials said. The news began to surface over the weekend as the National Guard in individual states reported that drilling for their troops would be postponed.

In Ohio, for example, Maj. Gen. Deborah Ashenbush released a video saying that drilling for most guardsmen there would not be held until the last week of September. Units preparing to mobilize will still receive their training on time, but most would remain on the sidelines, she said.

"We're very much aware that

this action will be at best an inconvenience for all of you and will have varying degrees of economic impact across the force," Ashenbush said in the video. "We're taking this action as a last resort."

The Hawaii Army National Guard canceled monthly training for 3,000 soldiers last weekend, according to the Honolulu Star-Advertiser. The Guard there will not receive \$1 million it expected from the National Guard Bureau as result of the national shortfall.

In Maryland, about 3,900 guardsmen will be held back from

training in September, saving about \$1.5 million, The Baltimore Sun reported.

In Delaware, the National Guard canceled training last weekend and attributed the budget shortfall nationally to accounting problems by the National Guard Bureau and the Guard in numerous other states. Pointedly, the top officer in the Delaware National Guard, Maj. Gen. Frank Vavala, said that some states were asked to "make up for the sins of others," according to the News Journal of Wilmington, Delaware.

Report finds lack of trust in Alaska National Guard command

The Associated Press

JUNEAU, Alaska — A scathing report into allegations of sexual assault and fraud in the Alaska National Guard finds that victims do not trust the system because of a lack of confidence in the command.

The report, released Thursday, was requested by Gov. Sean Parnell, who said he was angry that it had taken several years to get to the bottom of concerns.

He told reporters from Anchorage that he had requested and received the resignation of Alaska National Guard Adjutant Gen.

Thomas Katkus. Parnell said the buck stopped with Katkus.

"I've been extremely frustrated over the years because it seemed like we've been chasing a vapor," said Parnell, who has been criticized for not doing enough in response to allegations of sexual assaults within the Guard. He said when his office heard concerns, it would go to Guard leaders and be assured the matter was being handled and be given a description of how it was handled. He said he had no evidence that he was misled.

Investigations requested by Alaska's two U.S. senators found

the same thing, he said, that it seemed the cases were being properly handled. He said it took this type of a "deep review" to get at the heart of the problem.

Parnell said when he obtained "concrete examples" of how the command structure was "failing Guard members," in February, he took those to the National Guard Bureau. The bureau's Office of Complex Investigations conducted the review.

It found that the Guard is "not properly administering justice" in investigating or adjudicating Guard member misconduct cases,



Parnell

that actual and perceived favoritism, ethical misconduct and fear of reprisal had eroded the trust and confidence in the Guard leadership, and the Guard does not have a formal means for coordinating with local law enforcement in cases involving Guard member misconduct.

The review also found what it called instances of fraud — such as embezzlement of funds from a program to help Guard families and misuse of government equipment for personal gain — but said those cases did not have an effect on the reporting of sexual assault.

Recommendations include improving the reporting process to ensure the information of victims of sexual assault is kept confidential and that the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate or a law enforcement liaison track allegations of conduct investigated by law enforcement.



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NATO SUMMIT

Ukraine, pro-Russia rebels sign cease-fire

BY NATALIYA VASILYEVA
AND PETER LEONARD
The Associated Press

MINSK, Belarus — The Ukrainian president declared a cease-fire Friday to end nearly five months of fighting in the nation's east, after his representatives reached a deal with the Russian-backed rebels at peace talks in Minsk.

President Petro Poroshenko said he ordered government forces to stop hostilities at 11 a.m. EDT following a protocol signed by representatives of Ukraine, Russia, the rebels and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

"Human life is of the highest value. And we need to do everything that is possible and impossible to stop bloodshed and end people's suffering," Poroshenko said in a statement.

Heidi Tagliavini, of the OSCE, told reporters the deal in the Belarusian capital focused on 12 separate points, but she did not immediately spell them out before heading back into the talks. Poroshenko said a prisoner exchange would begin Saturday, and international monitors would keep watch over the cease-fire.

With the cease-fire deal, Putin may hope to avert a new round of sanctions, which European Union leaders ordered Friday to be prepared.

Since mid-April, Moscow-backed separatists have been fighting government troops in eastern Ukraine in a conflict the U.N. estimates has killed nearly 2,600 people.

"The cease-fire will allow us to save not only civilians lives but also the lives of the people who



SENATOR GRIFF/AP

Soldiers rest at a checkpoint in the port city of Mariupol in southeastern Ukraine on Friday.

took up arms in order to defend their land and ideals," said Alexander Zakharchenko, the rebel leader from the Donetsk region.

But Igor Plotnitsky, leader of the separatist Luhansk region, told reporters, "This doesn't mean that our course for secession is over" — a statement that reflected the deep divisions which threaten to derail peace efforts.

Details of the peace plan are yet to be released. Putin suggested earlier this week that rebels halt their offensive and Ukrainian government forces stop using combat aircraft and pull back so they can't shell residential areas with artillery and rockets. Poroshenko, in turn, emphasized that Russia must withdraw its troops from Ukraine.

"Human life is of the highest value. And we need to do everything that is possible and impossible to stop bloodshed and end people's suffering."

Petro Poroshenko
Ukrainian president

Moscow has denied reports by Ukraine, NATO and Western nations that it was backing the mutiny with weapons, supplies and even with thousands of regular troops. But a NATO military officer told The Associated Press on Thursday that the ranks of Russian soldiers directly involved in the conflict have grown even past NATO's earlier estimate of

at least 1,000.

At a summit in Wales, NATO leaders approved plans Friday to create a rapid response force with a headquarters in Eastern Europe that could quickly mobilize if an alliance country in the region were to come under attack. Ukraine is not a NATO member, but the entire alliance has been alarmed by Russia's actions in

Ukraine, and Russia is under both U.S. and EU sanctions for its backing of the rebels.

In his statement, Poroshenko said he ordered the cease-fire following Putin's call on the insurgents to halt fighting. He said he expects the OSCE to efficiently monitor the cease-fire.

"I count on this agreement, including the ceasing of fire and the freeing of hostages, to be precisely observed," Poroshenko said.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel said Friday in Wales, where she was attending a NATO summit, that "if certain processes get under way, we are prepared to suspend sanctions."

"We have to see whether this cease-fire is being applied. Do Russian troops withdraw, so far as they're there? Are there buffer zones and things like that — a lot of things will have to be sorted out," she said. "These sanctions certainly could be put into force — this is all in flux — but with the proviso that they can be suspended again if we see that this process really yields results."

The rebel offensive in the southeast follows two weeks of gains that have turned the tide of the war against Ukrainian forces, who until recently had appeared close to crushing the five-month rebellion.

As late as Friday morning, Associated Press reporters heard heavy shelling north and east of the key southeastern port of Mariupol. The city of 500,000 lies on the Sea of Azov, between Russia to the east and the Crimean Peninsula to the west, which Russia annexed in March. The shelling appeared to indicate that rebels had partially surrounded the area.

NATO: Headquarters in Poland to be expanded

FROM FRONT PAGE

As NATO members wrapped up their summit on Friday, Ukraine's President Petro Poroshenko — who also attended the conference — announced that a cease-fire had been negotiated with the Russian-backed rebels in the east of the country. The 12-point deal, which would end the four-month conflict, goes into effect Friday evening, Poroshenko told reporters.

The agreement includes the release of all prisoners and greater autonomy for Ukraine's Russian-speaking eastern regions, he said.

NATO currently maintains a small headquarters in Poland, which will now be increased to play a key role in planning and coordinating collective defense activities in the Baltics and with other eastern European allies, according to a NATO official.

For weeks, NATO officials have stated that the alliance would be beefing up its presence in the east with a new Readiness Action Plan, and the measures taken on Friday did not come as a surprise. It remains unclear how many troops will be positioned in the

region, but Rasmussen said the alliance's new spearhead force would involve several thousand ground troops.

NATO military personnel also would be required to man various bases in the east, where equipment will be stored, but on a rotational basis. Rasmussen did not say where those bases would be, but Poland, the Baltic nations and Romania all have volunteered to host.

Rasmussen stopped short of saying NATO would establish a permanent presence in the region, something Poland and the Baltic nations have sought. The idea of permanent bases is opposed by some members, including Germany, which view such action as a violation of NATO agreements with Russia. Critics of that stance argue that Russia already violated the agreement with its actions in Ukraine.

Moscow has repeatedly dismissed claims that it represents a threat to any NATO member state.

NATO will "maintain continuous presence and activity in the air, on land and at sea in the eastern part of the Alliance, on a rota-

tional basis," Rasmussen said.

In addition, NATO will conduct more short notice exercises to improve its overall state of readiness.

NATO also approved 16 other priorities that take into account other threats, including cyberattacks, which Rasmussen said are now part of "NATO's core task of collective defense."

Gen. Philip Breedlove, NATO's supreme allied commander, has said the alliance must take into account nonconventional threats in response to Russia's application of so-called "hybrid warfare" tactics in Ukraine.

Additional priorities for NATO involve strengthening the military capabilities of nonmember states such as Georgia and Moldova, which border Russia and, like Ukraine, were part of the Soviet Union, as well as Jordan, a country facing potential threat from the Islamic State group operating out of Syria and Iraq.

Meanwhile, NATO is ready to provide training support to Iraq's security forces should Baghdad request such assistance, Rasmussen said.



MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

President Barack Obama talks to the media Friday at the end of the two-day NATO summit at Celtic Manor in Newport, Wales.

"The security environment we face is more unpredictable than ever," Rasmussen said. "Russia is attacking Ukraine. Violent extremists are rising in the Middle East. Instability is growing in North Africa."

"In these turbulent times, NATO must be prepared to undertake the full range of missions and to defend allies against the full range of threats."

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MIDEAST



FARAH ABDI WARSAMEH/AP

Hundreds of newly trained al-Shabab fighters perform military exercises in Lafote, about 12 miles south of Mogadishu, Somalia, in February 2011.

US confirms Somalia strike killed militant group's chief

By JON HARPER
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — U.S. officials confirmed Friday that an American military strike earlier this week killed the head of al-Shabab, an Islamic militant group based in Somalia that has targeted Westerners.

"The U.S. military undertook operations against (Ahmed) Godane on Sept. 1, which led to his death," Pentagon Press Secretary Rear Adm. John Kirby said in a statement.

"Godane's removal is a major symbolic and operational loss to the largest al-Qaida affiliate in Africa and reflects years of painstaking work by our intelligence, military and law enforcement professionals," White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest said in a statement.

On Tuesday, the Pentagon revealed that U.S. special operations forces, using manned and unmanned aircraft, destroyed an encampment and a vehicle in south central Somalia with sev-

eral Hellfire missiles and laser-guided munitions.

"We certainly believe that we hit what we were aiming at," Kirby said at a press conference Tuesday, but at the time could not confirm that Godane or other al-Shabab leaders were killed.

Al-Shabab has claimed responsibility for numerous attacks inside the country and elsewhere.

On Wednesday, Pentagon spokesman Col. Steve Warren said the U.S. was using "intelligence means" to try to determine if the militant chief had been taken out. On Friday the Defense Department broke the news that he had not survived.

Al-Shabab has been designated a terrorist organization by the U.S. State Department. In 2012, Godane proclaimed his allegiance

to al-Qaida. The Somali network has claimed responsibility for numerous attacks inside the country and elsewhere, including the deadly Westgate Mall rampage in Nairobi, Kenya, last year, and suicide bombings in Uganda and Djibouti.

Godane continued to manage plots targeting Westerners in East Africa, including Americans, according to the White House. A 2010 al-Shabab suicide bombing in Kampala killed a U.S. citizen. The U.S. will keep targeting the militant group because it still remains a threat even after Godane's removal, officials said.

"Even as this is an important step forward in the fight against al-Shabab, the United States will continue to use the tools at our disposal — financial, diplomatic, intelligence and military — to address the threat that al-Shabab and other terrorist groups pose to the United States and the American people," Earnest said.

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Coalition: Nations to focus on restricting group's finances

FROM FRONT PAGE

He said the group can then be expanded.

The Friday morning meeting was a late addition to the NATO summit here and is part of a broader U.S. strategy to build a team of nations to fight the Islamic State militants, who have taken control of the eastern third of Syria and large swaths of northern and western Iraq.

The foreign and defense ministers talked about how to tackle the Islamic State militant growth in Iraq, but Kerry said there are obviously "implications about Syria in this" and suggested they could discuss that later in the day.

"We very much hope that people will be as declarative as some of our friends around the table have been in order to be clear about what they're willing to commit, because we must be able to have a plan together by the time we come to [the United Nations General Assembly]," Kerry said. "We need to have this coherence."

One key prong of the attack would be for the nations' law enforcement and intelligence agencies to work together to go after the group's financing — both in banks and more informal funding networks.

In a joint statement after the meeting, Kerry and Hagel said the group agreed to begin talking with a new Iraqi government about the potential for training and equipping the Iraqi security forces. They added that the group agreed to work to stem the Islamic State's source of funding from illicit oil sales, and hold accountable those who violate the trade prohibitions.

NATO Secretary-General Anders Fogh Rasmussen said NATO has agreed to help coordinate assistance to Iraq that is coming from various nations. And he said that if Iraq asks, NATO would consider putting together a mission to train and increase the capabilities of the Iraqi forces.

NATO also agreed to increase cooperation among nations on sharing information about foreign fighters.

A number of nations, including the U.S., have noted that radicalized citizens have been traveling to Syria and Iraq to fight, raising alarms that they

'It is not only about a military effort, it is also about stopping the financial contributions to ISIS. ...'

Martin Lidegaard

Denmark foreign minister

could return to their home countries and launch attacks.

Denmark's Foreign Minister Martin Lidegaard said after the meeting that so far, Denmark hasn't been asked to provide anything specific, but he added, "I cannot deny it will happen."

"It is not only about a military effort, it is also about stopping the financial contributions to ISIS, to coordinate intelligence. It is about stopping foreign fighters, young people from our own societies," Lidegaard said in a live interview on Danish television. "It is decisive that we get more countries along."



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GOP senator seeks new authority vs. militants

By DONNA CASSATA
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The senior Republican on the Senate Armed Services Committee is pushing legislation authorizing the president to "use all necessary and appropriate force in order to defend the national security of the United States against the threat posed by the organization called the Islamic State or 'IS,' formerly known as the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, as well as any successor organization."

Sen. Jim Inhofe, of Oklahoma, is circulating a draft of a resolution granting the president the authority to "use all necessary and appropriate force in order to defend the national security of the United States against the threat posed by the organization called the Islamic State or 'IS,' formerly known as the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, as well as any successor organization."

The measure, which has no end

date, would allow the president to deploy ground forces as well as continue with airstrikes against the merciless militants who have seized swaths of Iraq, threaten the government and killed two American journalists inside Syria.

Inhofe is seeking bipartisan support for his measure as Congress returns to Washington next week from its five-week break. The resolution also forces the president to submit a strategy to Congress within 60 days for how to defeat the Islamic State group. President Barack Obama has vowed to destroy and degrade the militants, but conceded last week that the administration has no strategy.

The Senate has a shortened session in September, and it is unclear whether lawmakers will act on any legislation responding to the militant threat. Some Republicans

and Democrats contend that the president already has authority to act based on the 1973 War Powers Resolution.

Other Republicans say they are reluctant to give the president any blanket military authority absent a detailed strategy.

Pending in the Senate is the sweeping defense policy bill, and Inhofe's resolution could be part of that debate, although the Senate is not expected to act on the defense bill until a postelection, lame-duck session in November.

Other lawmakers also have said they will push for resolutions on military force. Among them, Rep. Darrell Issa, R-Calif., said he will propose a resolution next week to require a comprehensive plan from Obama on how to defeat the Islamic State group.

NATION

Ex-Va. governor's lawyer promises to appeal verdict

By LARRY O'DELL
AND ALAN SUERMAN
The Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. — Kathleen L. Carmody said she voted for Bob McDonnell and thought he was "terrific for Virginia" as governor — but as a juror in McDonnell's corruption trial, she was compelled to convict him.

The facts spoke for themselves," she told The Associated Press in an interview Thursday not long after she and fellow jurors found McDonnell guilty on 11 of 13 counts.

McDonnell's wife, Maureen, was convicted of nine of 13 charges.

The case derailed the career of the onetime rising Republican star. Bob McDonnell's attorney, Henry Asbill, said his client did not receive a fair trial and will appeal. Asbill reiterated his previous statement that prosecutors sought to criminalize routine political behavior.

"I have no idea what the jury

deliberated about," Asbill said. "There are a lot of things about the case that (you) can sit back and think about but it's hard to tell when the die was cast."

Maureen McDonnell's attorney, William Burck, declined to comment.

McDonnell and his wife now face up to 20 years in prison on each count, although a presentencing report by the federal probation office will result in a lighter recommendation. Sentencing was scheduled for Jan. 6.

An ashen Bob McDonnell, who wept as the verdicts were read, was mobbed by TV cameras before being whisked from the federal courthouse in a blue Mercedes.

"All I can say is that my trust remains in the Lord," he said quietly.

The McDonnells were convicted on nearly all the counts involving doing favors for wealthy vitamin executive Jonnie Williams in exchange for more than \$165,000 in gifts and loans they admitted taking.

Maureen McDonnell also was convicted of obstructing justice after the scandal broke, by returning designer clothes Williams had bought for her during a New York shopping trip, along with a handwritten note suggesting they had agreed Williams could give the dress to his daughters or to charity.

Jurors acquitted them of lying on loan applications that failed to mention the money Williams lent them.

leave the area with the boy, Nocco said.

The sheriff's office worked with Tampa police to devise "a plan so this would end safely," Tampa Police Chief Jane Castor said.

Castor said the child seemed fine. "He is in good spirits," she said during a news conference Friday morning.

The search for Matos and the boy began Thursday after Sheriff's deputies in nearby Pasco County conducted a welfare check at a Hudson home. The deputies who stopped by the home found no one home, but noticed a bad odor in the area. They walked down the street toward an area where birds were circling and found four bodies — two men and two women — piled on top of each other. He said they had apparently been there for several days.



KENT D. JOHNSON, ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION/AP

Cobb County District Attorney Vic Reynolds leaves a news conference at the Cobb County Courthouse in Marietta, Ga., on Thursday after discussing the indictment against Justin Ross Harris.

Ga. man charged with murder in toddler son's death in hot car

By KATE BRUMBACH
The Associated Press

MARIETTA, Ga. — A Georgia man whose toddler son died after he was left in a hot car for seven hours has been charged with murder in a case that has drawn widespread attention amid prosecutors' claims that he intentionally left the boy alone.

A Cobb County grand jury on Thursday indicted Justin Ross Harris on multiple charges including malice murder, felony murder and cruelty to children. The malice murder charge indicates that prosecutors intend to prove Harris intentionally left his son, Cooper, in the hot car to die.

The eight-count indictment also includes charges related to sexually explicit exchanges prosecutors say Harris had with an underage girl.

The case has attracted enormous national attention from the moment police arrested Harris in a parking lot where he had parked and pulled his 22-month-old son out of his car seat. Harris has told police he was supposed to drive his son to day care the morning

of June 18 but drove to work instead and didn't remember the child was in back until he was driving to a movie after work.

Police have said the toddler was left in the vehicle for about seven hours on a day when temperatures in the Atlanta area reached at least into the high 80s. The medical examiner's office has said the boy died of hyperthermia — essentially overheating — and has called his death a homicide.

During a three-hour bail-and-probable cause hearing in July, the courtroom was packed with reporters, Harris' friends and family and people with no connection who were simply curious about the case. Among the evidence presented by a police detective: Harris was exchanging nude photos and racy messages online with several women as his

son languished in the hot SUV; he had looked at websites promoting a child-free lifestyle; and he showed little emotion when questioned about his son's death.

Defense attorney Maddox Kilgore argued at the hearing that the evidence was insufficient and that the boy's death was a tragic accident.

"It was always an accident and when the time comes and we work through the state's maze of theories at trial, it's still going to be a terrible, gut-wrenching accident," Kilgore told reporters Thursday afternoon. He added that his client is "a very broken guy" and was devastated after losing his son, livelihood and freedom.

Reached by telephone later Thursday, grand juror Vivien Sanders, 68, said while jurors had several questions about the charges, "they were satisfied enough to where we made a unanimous decision."

Harris will be arraigned in the next few weeks, and Cobb County District Attorney Vic Reynolds said he will decide before then whether to seek the death penalty.



Harris

Suspect in 4 Fla. killings arrested, boy found safe

The Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — SWAT teams swarmed a downtown Tampa hotel early Friday to arrest a suspect in a quadruple killing and a 4-year-old autistic boy believed to be the man's son was found safe, Tampa police said.

Police said they took Adam Matos, 28, into custody at the Floridian Hotel and multiple charges are pending. The child, Ismael Tristian Santisteban, was with him.

A tip led multiple law enforcement agencies to downtown Tampa. The Tampa Tribune reports police used to lure Matos out of his room and away from the child. Pasco Sheriff Chris Nocco said Matos was caught by surprise and didn't put up a fight. Matos was in Tampa with plans to

Md. man charged in son's death in vehicle

By JESSICA GRESKO
The Associated Press

LEXINGTON PARK, Md. — A father was charged with involuntary manslaughter in the death of his 17-month-old son after he left the boy inside a hot vehicle at a Maryland naval base for more than six hours, Navy investigators said Thursday.

According to a criminal complaint filed in federal court, John Juneak, 40, told investigators that he was supposed to take his child to day care at the Patuxent River Naval Station on Wednesday, but didn't. Instead, he drove straight

to his office on the base and left his child in a rear-facing car seat after arriving at 8:50 a.m. that day, the document says.

At a hearing Thursday in U.S. District Court in Greenbelt, a judge released Juneak to the custody of his parents, who live near his home in Leonardtown.

Juneak showed little emotion as he said "Yes, your honor," when asked whether he understood his rights. As he left the courtroom, his gaze lingered in the direction of his wife, Annette; his parents; his sister and his brother-in-law. His relatives declined to comment as they left court.

"He's devastated right now, grieving along with the rest of his family," said his attorney, Megan Coleman.

During the hearing, Coleman said the family preferred for Juneak to live with his parents because it would be difficult for him to return home after his son's death. Prosecutors said their only concern was that all firearms be removed from the homes for the safety of the couple's older son, noting that a loaded gun was found on a nightstand in the Juneaks' house. The judge ordered them to surrender all guns kept in the home.

NATION

Officials: HealthCare.gov hacked

BY ANDREA PETERSON
AND JASON MILLMAN
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — A portion of the HealthCare.gov website was breached in July when hackers uploaded malicious software to a test server, government officials said Thursday. The intrusion was discovered last week by the security team at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, a unit of Department of Health and Human Services.

"Our review indicates that the server did not contain consumer personal information; data was not transmitted outside the agency, and the website was not specifically targeted," HHS said in a written statement. "We have taken measures to further strengthen security." The incident was reported by The Wall Street Journal.

HHS officials say the test server was mistakenly connected to the Internet. But there is no indication that the attack reached other HHS servers or parts of HealthCare.gov, the insurance enrollment portal serving 36 states, officials

said. The malware uploaded to the system was not specifically designed to target the site — instead, it was a boilerplate "botnet" package that hackers often use to launch attacks on other websites and knock them offline, according to HHS officials.

'Our review indicates that the server did not contain consumer personal information.'

Department of Health and Human Services statement

Department of Homeland Security are helping investigate the intrusion and confirmed the nature of the malware.

"The National Cybersecurity & Communications Integration Center's US-CERT worked with HHS to analyze and mitigate the effects of a Distributed Denial of Service malware package, and there is no indication that any data

was compromised at this time," Homeland Security spokesman S.Y. Lee said in a statement. "DHS will continue to monitor the situation and help develop and implement precautionary mitigation strategies as necessary."

As the investigation continues, HHS officials say the agency is doing a comprehensive review of security practices.

But the intrusion is a reminder that government IT systems can be vulnerable to the same cyberthreats facing everyday consumers and major U.S. businesses — including Home Depot, which said this week that it is investigating "unusual activity" at its stores.

HealthCare.gov debuted with severe technical difficulties last fall, and cybersecurity experts have warned Congress that the system is vulnerable to hacking.

Congressional Republicans, who led investigations into the website's security after its troubled launch last year, criticized the administration Thursday.

"IT experts have long warned

about the lack of security built into the federal Obamacare website," Rep. Diane Black, R-Tenn., said in a statement. "The vast amount of personal information that Americans are required to put into this site is an open invitation for hackers."

Darrell Issa, R-Calif., chairman of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, announced Thursday that CMS Administrator Marilyn Tavenner, whose agency oversees HealthCare.gov, will testify about the breach of the website on Sept. 18.

"Considering this Administration launched healthcare.gov over the objections of CMS, it's unsurprising that the website has suffered a 'malicious attack,'" Issa said in a statement.

This is the first known breach of the site, which overcame a terrible launch to enroll 5.4 million people in 2014 health insurance plans. Federal officials are gearing up for the next open enrollment period, scheduled to start Nov. 15.



M.P. KING, (MADISON) WISCONSIN STATE JOURNAL/AP

Katie Belanger, president and CEO of Fair Wisconsin, left, speaks alongside plaintiffs in Wolf v. Walker during a press conference in Madison, Wis., on Thursday after the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals in Chicago struck down as unconstitutional the gay marriage bans of Wisconsin and Indiana.

High court urged to take up gay marriage

BY SCOTT BAUER
AND MICHAEL TARM
The Associated Press

MADISON, Wis. — A stinging rejection of same-sex marriage bans in Wisconsin and Indiana, issued by a unanimous and unequivocal U.S. appeals court, has brought hope to those fighting the laws that the Supreme Court will feel pressure to rule soon in their favor.

The ruling from the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Chicago came Thursday, the same day 32 states asked the Supreme Court to settle the issue once and for all. Fifteen states that allow gay marriage, led by Massachusetts, filed a brief asking the justices to take up three cases from Virginia, Utah and Oklahoma and overturn bans. Seventeen other states, led by Colorado, that have banned the practice asked the court to hear cases from Utah and Oklahoma to clear up a "morass" of lawsuits, but didn't urge the court to rule one way or another.

Celebrations Thursday over the latest legal victory for gay couples seeking to get married were tempered knowing that the bigger — and final — battle rests with the high court.

Same-sex marriage is legal in 19 states and the District of Columbia. Bans that have been overturned in some other states continue to make their way through the courts. Since last year, the vast majority of federal rulings have decided same-sex marriage bans unconstitutional.

Republican Wisconsin Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen said he would appeal Thursday's ruling.

The decision left no doubt how the 7th Circuit felt about Wisconsin and Indiana's bans, criticizing the states' justifications for them.

Ruling against oil firm hailed

The Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Environmentalists, recreational fishermen and people who make their living on the Gulf of Mexico are hailing a federal judge's ruling that could mean \$18 billion in additional fines for BP over the nation's worst offshore oil spill.

Lisa Smith cheered and gave an emphatic "yes" Thursday afternoon when she heard about the decision as she fished off a beach bridge in Florida.

"BP should have to pay; they've done a lot of damage," Smith said.

In the town of Lafitte, La., David Robin said he hopes the oil company pays dearly, money that would not only mitigate damage from the spill but also help restore Louisiana wetlands lost to erosion that experts blame in part on coastal oil and gas activity.

"If we could get ahold of that money, we could carefully plan a coastal erosion battle," said Robin, a plumber who owns a fishing camp in Lafitte.

U.S. District Judge Carl Barbier ruled Thursday that BP acted with "gross negligence" in the 2010 Gulf of Mexico disaster.

Under the federal Clean Water Act, a polluter can be forced to pay a maximum of \$1,100 in civil fines per barrel of spilled oil, or up to \$4,300 per barrel if the company is found grossly negligent. Barbier's finding exposes BP to the much higher amount.

Even as the oil giant vowed to appeal, BP stock fell \$2.82, or more than 6 percent, to \$4.89, reducing the company's market value by almost \$9 billion.



COURTESY OF THE U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY/AP

Fluid lava streams after the June 27 flow from the Kilauea volcano in Pahoa, Hawaii.

Hawaii lava flowing quickly toward homes

The Associated Press

HONOLULU — Rural Hawaii residents are keeping a nervous eye on a lava flow that is moving 800 feet a day toward their community.

Lava from the Kilauea volcano is less than a mile from Kaoho Homesteads and could reach it in five to seven days if it continues on its current path, geologists with the Hawaiian Volcano Observatory said, raising the alert

level Thursday to a warning. It wasn't immediately clear how many homes could be affected.

However, the observatory said predicting a lava flow's exact path can be difficult because of subtle variations in topography, changes in lava volume and how lava enters or exits ground cracks.

The isolated agricultural region is part of the Big Island's Puna district, where Tropical Storm Iselle toppled trees and knocked out power last month.

Hawaii County Civil Defense Administrator Darryl Oliveira said the agency has not yet ordered an evacuation, but Mayor Billy Kono has declared an emergency, which allows authorities to restrict access to roads.

The Kilauea volcano has been continuously erupting since 1983, but new vents — or points where lava reaches the surface — have opened periodically. Lava from the volcano wiped out neighborhoods in 1990.

NATION



MARK A. KLINGLER, CARNEGIE MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY/AP

This undated artist rendering shows the Dreadnoughtus, a dinosaur that had a 37-foot-long neck and a 30-foot tail and weighed an estimated 65 tons.

Fossil discovery points to new, 65-ton dinosaur

BY MEERI KIM

Special To The Washington Post.

Scientists have discovered the fossilized remains of a new long-necked, long-tailed dinosaur that has taken the crown for largest terrestrial animal with a body mass that can be accurately determined.

Measurements of bones from its leg and arm revealed that the animal was 65 tons, and still growing, when it died in the Patagonian hills of Argentina about 77 million years ago.

"To put this in perspective, an African elephant is about 5 tons, T. rex is 8 tons, Diplodocus is 18 tons, and a Boeing 737 is around 50 tons," said study author and paleontologist Kenneth Lacovara at Drexel University. "And then you have Dreadnoughtus at 65 tons."

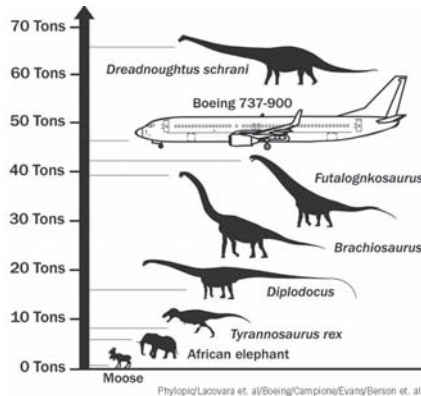
Dreadnoughtus, meaning "fears nothing," is named after the powerful early-20th century battleships. Although it was a plant-eater, a healthy Dreadnoughtus likely had no real issues with predators due to its intimidating size and muscular, weaponized tail.

But its enormous bulk also had a downside. Based on the width and strength of its skeleton, toppling over would likely spell death for such a heavy animal.

"If you look at its really big ribs, there's no way they're going to withstand 65 tons of weight on top of them," he said. "It would have been a catastrophic event in the life of a Dreadnoughtus if it fell over."

However, it probably didn't do much walking around since its 37-foot-long neck could already provide access to a wide bounty of vegetation.

"How do you come up with a



Philopit/Lacovara et al./Boeing/Campione/Evans/Benson et al.

body size that is so enormous when you're a terrestrial animal?" said Luis Chiappe, Director of the National History Museum of Los Angeles's Dinosaur Institute, who was not involved in the study. "You need to have a structural design that allows you to support a body like that, and you have to be potentially adapted to eat 24 hours a day, nonstop, with a minimal amount of sleep."

The study was published online Thursday in Scientific Reports.

On the first day of the 2005 field season in southern Argentina, Lacovara spotted a little lump of bone sticking out of the ground. It was maybe the 20th fossil he had found that day, so he didn't think much of it. As he kept digging, he realized it was a massive dinosaur femur that stretched over 6 feet long.



MEERI KIM/for The Washington Post

At Drexel University in Philadelphia, researcher Kenneth Lacovara stands next to a fossil of the dinosaur Dreadnoughtus that he and his colleagues uncovered in Argentina.

Caustic comedian Rivers dies at 81

BY LYNN ELBER

The Associated Press

Joan Rivers, the raucous, acid-tongued comedian who crashed the male-dominated realm of late-night talk shows and turned Hollywood red carpets into danger zones for badly dressed celebrities, died Thursday. She was 81.

Rivers died at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York, surrounded by family and close friends, daughter Melissa Rivers said. She was hospitalized Aug. 28 after going into cardiac arrest in a doctor's office following a routine procedure. The New York state health department is investigating the circumstances.

"My mother's greatest joy in life was to make people laugh," Melissa Rivers said. "Although that is difficult to do right now, I know her final wish would be that we return to laughing soon."

Upon hearing of her death, reaction poured out from dozens of notables, ranging from Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to Rivers' peer-in-comedy Don Rickles.



Rivers

"Knowing her, working with her and enjoying the fun times of life with her was special. She will always be in our hearts," Rickles said in a statement.

Under the immobile, plastic surgery-crafted veneer that became Joan Rivers' unapologetic trademark as she aged, her wit remained as vibrantly raw and unruly as when she first broke her way into a comedy world belonging largely to men.

In a 2010 "Late Show" interview, David Letterman broached the plastic surgery issue: "You don't look exactly like the Joan Rivers I used to know." Rivers didn't flinch.

"Our business is so youthful. ... You do little tweaks, and I think if a woman wants to look good, or a man, do it," she said. "It's not about anybody else."

No executions without new rules, governor says

BY TIM TALLEY

The Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — New procedures to improve Oklahoma's execution process must be implemented before the state resumes putting prisoners to death by lethal injection, the governor said after investigators presented their findings about an April case in which the inmate writhed and moaned on the gurney.

In its report released Thursday about the troubled April 29 execution of Clayton Lockett — who was declared dead 43 minutes after his execution began — the state Department of Public Safety made 11 recommendations include more training for medical personnel and having additional supplies of lethal drugs and equipment on hand.

Corrections Director Robert Patton is reviewing the guidelines, Fallin said, adding that she expects the department to implement them before executions

resume. Three executions have been set for November and December, the first on Nov. 13.

Gov. Mary Fallin said she still believes the death penalty is a just punishment for those guilty of the most heinous crimes, but that the state must make sure it's carried out effectively.

Fallin said the report verified what authorities had believed: "There were significant complications establishing an IV line in Clayton Lockett."

The report blamed Lockett's flawed lethal injection on poor placement of intravenous lines. The medical team could not find suitable veins in Lockett's arms, legs, neck and feet, leading them to insert it into his groin, the report said.

Out of modesty, no one monitored the intravenous line, a job that is the normal duty of Oklahoma State Penitentiary Warden Anita Trammel, who decided to cover Lockett's body — and the IV — with a sheet.

Pot brownies sicken 5 high-schoolers

RICHMOND, Calif. — Authorities say five students got sick — including two who were rushed to the hospital unconscious — after eating marijuana brownies that were sold at a San Francisco Bay Area high school.

Richmond police Capt. Mark Gagan said a 17-year-old senior is suspected of selling the brownies Thursday at De Anza High School for \$3 apiece or two for \$5.

Five students, ages 14 to 16, fell ill, Gagan said, regaining consciousness at the hospital and are in serious but stable condition.

Three other students were treated at the school for nausea and vomiting.

Gagan says the suspected brownie seller was arrested on suspicion of selling drugs on campus and child endangerment. She's being held at juvenile hall.

There's no immediate word on where she got the brownies.

From The Associated Press

WORLD

29 men pulled from collapsed Bosnian mine

BY SABINA NIKSIC
AND AMER COHADZIC
The Associated Press

ZENICA, Bosnia-Herzegovina — One by one, rescue workers pulled 29 miners out of a trouble-plagued coal mine Friday after it had collapsed a day earlier in central Bosnia. Officials halted rescue efforts, believing that five men who remained deep underground were dead.

Their faces smeared with coal dust and lined with worry and exhaustion, the rescued men emerged from the Zenica mine to cries of joy from their families

after spending the night trapped more than 1,600 feet below the surface.

"He is alive!" Admiria Durakovic, whose husband Amir was among the miners, cried out before breaking down, sobbing and shaking.

The men looked tired and shaky. Twenty-six miners were taken to a hospital, six of them badly hurt, but none suffered life-threatening injuries, doctors said.

Esad Civic, manager of the Zenica mine, said the rescue effort had been halted after the 29 miners were pulled out.

Families of those who were left behind broke down in tears as authorities closed down the pit entrance. Rescue worker Amir Arnaut said they did everything possible to save the men.

"We could not reach that group of people," he said. "We could only reach that first group."

Nuraga Duranovic, a mining inspector, said the deaths cannot be officially confirmed until the bodies are found.

Alija Celebic, a retired miner, waited for his son Bogdan, among the 29 who escaped.

"He was hurt in the mine just few weeks ago, and now this!"

Celebic said, "All is good as long as he is alive!"

The union leader at the coal mine, Mehmed Oruc, said two tunnels in the mine collapsed Thursday evening following a gas explosion triggered by a minor earthquake near the town of Zenica.

He said 22 other miners managed to get out of the pit Thursday, two of whom were injured.

It was the third incident at the Zenica mine this year. Sixteen miners were hurt in two previous gas explosions, the most recent less than four weeks ago. The mine was the site of one of

the greatest mining tragedies in Bosnia's history, when 39 miners died in a gas explosion in 1982.

Families and union leaders accused the management of responding poorly to the latest collapse, particularly in initially claiming that only eight workers were trapped. Union leaders said authorities brought in rescue machinery seven hours after the blast.

A mine manager conceded that the Zenica mine — once among the most modern in Europe — is now far from the world standard, following Bosnia's 1992-95 war that impoverished the country.



Wong Maye-E/AP

Monks from the Shaolin Temple in China rehearse a dance in May 2009 as part of the annual Singapore Arts Festival.

Do you know kung fu? Yes or no, temple needs you

The Associated Press

BEIJING — Help wanted: Ancient Buddhist temple famed for its kung fu monks seeks media directors to build brand. English and social media skills required. Not necessary to be a monk, practice martial arts or eat vegetarian.

That online ad placed by China's 1,500-year-old Shaolin temple already has drawn a brisk response, reflecting the institution's exalted place in Chinese history and popular culture.

Chinese state media reported Friday that 300 people already have applied for the two positions available, including business executives, media professionals and recent graduates of top overseas universities. Although the temple's monks are all male, men and women are both invited to send in their resumes, the reports said.

Calls to the temple's public-

ity and asset-management offices rang unanswered Friday.

The move is the latest attempt by the enterprising abbot Shi Yongxin to exploit the temple's fame in the name of propagating Buddhist thinking and culture.

The temple, its monks and their distinctive form of kung fu have developed into a lucrative business enterprise, raising controversy among some who accuse Shi of overcommercialization. Shi said he's just defending the temple's reputation and promoting its values.

Located deep in the mountains of Henan province south of Beijing, Shaolin won fame for its monks' martial exploits, including the rescue of an emperor. It has since been the subject of countless books and movies such as Steven Chow's 2001 comedy "Shaolin Soccer."

Since taking over as abbot in the 1990s, Shi has threatened to

sue companies that use the temple's name or image without permission, and served as executive producer for martial arts films centered on the temple. The temple takes in foreign students, runs monthlong executive martial arts retreats, and maintains a website in both Chinese and English.

Shi has used the income to upgrade temple facilities — installing lavish visitor restrooms equipped with uniformed cleaners and TVs. That has brought still more brickbats from traditionalists and reports said deflecting against media criticism and accusations of overexploitation will be a major part of the job for any media director.

The flexibility over candidates' requirements shows the temple's desire to attract top talent, although a knowledge of and appreciation for Zen Buddhist thought and culture is desired.

US to provide \$75M to expand Ebola treatment centers

BY JONATHAN PAYE-LAYLEN
AND SARAH DILORENZO
The Associated Press

MONROVIA, Liberia — The American aid agency announced Thursday it would donate \$75 million to fund 1,000 more beds in Ebola treatment centers in Liberia and buy 130,000 more protective suits for health care workers.

West Africa's struggling health systems have buckled under the pressure of an Ebola outbreak that has already killed about 1,900 people. Nurses in Liberia are wearing rags over their heads to protect themselves from the dreaded disease, amid concerns that shortages of protective gear throughout the region are responsible for the high Ebola death toll among health workers.

The U.S. Agency for International Development also urged American health care workers to respond to the outbreak. Rajiv Shah, the agency's administrator, told The Associated Press that several hundred more international experts are needed and the agency will help send Americans health care workers there.

"This will get worse before it gets better," he said. "We have a coherent and clear strategy ... but it will take weeks to months to get operational at that scale."

The \$75 million comes in addition to about \$20 million the agency has already donated to fight the outbreak that was first identified in March in Guinea, and has spread to Liberia, Sierra Leone and Nigeria. The killer virus is spread through bodily fluids such as blood, sweat, urine or diarrhea.

Health workers account for about 10 percent of the deaths so far. Much of the protective gear they use must be destroyed after use, so Ebola wards need a constant flow of clean equipment.

One nurse at a hospital in Monrovia, Liberia's capital, said she and her colleagues have resorted to cutting up their old uniforms and trying them over their faces to protect themselves, looking out through holes in the fabric. She spoke on condition of anonymity because she was not authorized to talk to the media.

"It is really pathetic," she said. "We are not equipped to face the situation."

Death toll in Kashmir flooding reaches 116

SRINAGAR, India — Heavy monsoon rains have caused flash floods and landslides that left at least 116 people dead in the disputed Himalayan region of Kashmir and in eastern Pakistan, officials said Friday.

Shantnu, an Indian official who goes by only one name, said 47 people had died in the Indian-controlled portion of Kashmir, including five whose bodies were pulled from the rubble of a home that collapsed in the Poonch region, burying an estimated 15 people. Three other people, including a paramilitary soldier, were washed

away when a bridge collapsed in a separate incident.

Pakistan's National Disaster Management Authority said it expects "exceptionally high floods" this weekend.

The NDMA said Pakistan's main rivers were swollen and that flash floods and heavy rains had damaged hundreds of homes. Officials confirmed that 30 people and three soldiers have died in the Pakistan-administered portion of Kashmir over the past 24 hours.

Another 36 people were killed in Pakistan's eastern Punjab region when their roofs collapsed Thursday, NDMA spokesman Ahmad Kama said.

From The Associated Press

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OPINION

Confirm the qualified ambassadors

By DAVID IGNATIUS

WASHINGTON

Talk about America's decline is usually wrong. But how else would you describe a country that, in a world of exploding tensions, is unable to confirm dozens of ambassadors to foreign posts because of partisan political squabbling?

Even by Washington standards, the Senate Republicans have hit a new low for hypocrisy. They denounce President Barack Obama's inaction on foreign policy — and simultaneously refuse to confirm his nominees for U.S. ambassadors to such hotspots as Turkey, on the front lines against the Islamic State, and Sierra Leone, epicenter of the Ebola outbreak.

Let's say it plainly: This is how nations lose their power and influence, when they are unable to agree even on basic matters such as diplomatic representation. The decision-making system breaks down, and the public is too bored or disinclined to take action. Sadly, that's a snapshot of America in 2014.

The State Department says it has 65 nominees awaiting confirmation. A few of them are ill-prepared political appointees who bungled their confirmation hearings and, frankly, should be withdrawn. But 40 of them are career diplomats with distinguished careers whose only misstep was to get caught in the Washington morass of partisan politics. The average wait time for nominees who are qualified to lead the Foreign Relations Committee and the Senate floor is 237 days.

Here's a map of America's dysfunction: Eleven of our empty embassies are in Africa, where disease and terrorism are

spreading, and countries are desperate for American leadership. Nine are in Eastern Europe, where Russian President Vladimir Putin is on the march. Six are in East Asia, where China flexes its muscles. Worried about the Middle East? Sorry, but we lack ambassadors to the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain, in addition to Turkey.

The State Department's Foreign Service doesn't even have a director-general. Arnold Chacon, a distinguished career diplomat, has been waiting 326 days for confirmation. John Estrada, a decorated former sergeant major of the Marine Corps who was born in Trinidad and Tobago, has waited 394 days to be confirmed as ambassador there. The Senate hasn't confirmed assistant secretaries of state to oversee the United Nations, or arms control negotiations, or global energy affairs.

Consider the case of Guatemala: Senators give windy speeches about stopping that country's migration of undocumented children. Yet for 86 days, they have stalled the nomination for a new ambassador to Guatemala, who could deliver the message in person.

Sometimes in Washington, you can say that the problem is everyone's fault, or nobody's fault. But that isn't the case here. This one belongs to the Senate Republican leadership. Apparently, they want to make the Democrats pay a price for removing the filibuster power. Republicans on the Foreign Relations Committee, including Sen. Bob Corker, the ranking member, are said to favor a deal that could break the logjam. But no: It's payback time. Nobody seems to have told the Republican leaders that the price is being paid by the United States in lost representation.

The Islamic State atrocities we can't forget

By WILLIAM SALEATAN

State

WASHINGTON

The Islamic State has released another beheading video. Two weeks ago, it posted a video of an Islamic State fighter decapitating U.S. journalist James Foley. The new clip shows another reporter, Steven Sotloff, meeting the same end. A third video, released several days ago, featured the execution of a Kurdish fighter. A fourth victim, a British aid worker, is expected to be next.

Maybe you're tempted to watch these videos. Or maybe, like me, you feel as though you should. Foley and Sotloff died because they were Americans. They could have been any of us. Don't we owe it to them to witness their murders?

No. We owe them something else. These executions are what the Islamic State wants you to see. They're designed to scare the United States out of Iraq and Syria, allowing the Islamic State to continue its rampage. The people for whom Foley and Sotloff risked and lost their lives were ordinary Syrians and Iraqis. They're the people the Islamic State has butchered by the thousands. The best way to honor Foley and Sotloff is to face those murders, and to stop the Islamic State from committing thousands more.

The Foley and Sotloff videos are propaganda. Their message is to get out of the Islamic State's way. "Your military Air Force is attacking us daily in Iraq," says the killer in the Foley video. U.S. meddling, he warns, "will result in the bloodshed of your people." In the Sotloff video, he threatens, "Just as your missiles continue to strike our people, our knife will continue to strike the necks of your people."

James Foley and Steven Sotloff risked their lives to tell the world about the Islamic State's victims. Don't let it be in vain.

What would happen if we got out of the Islamic State's way? The same thing that was happening before we intervened: mass murder and ethnic cleansing. Instead of watching the Sotloff video, let's look at the long list of the Islamic State atrocities cataloged this week.

Start with Monday's testimony before the U.N. Human Rights Council. The documented incidents include 1,700 captives executed in Tikrit, Iraq, and 650 in Mosul, Iraq. Some 1,000 Turkmen massacred, including 100 children. More than 2,000 women and children kidnapped. "Systematic hunting of members of ethnic and religious groups." Women raped and sold. Young boys executed. Girls enslaved for sexual abuse. Children recruited as suicide bombers. More than 1 million refugees, half of them kids.

Then read the report Amnesty International issued Tuesday. Its title is "Ethnic Cleansing on Historic Scale: The Islamic State's Systematic Targeting of Minorities in Northern Iraq." The report details, with eyewitness testimony, several more Islamic State atrocities in Iraq. At least 100 men and boys herded together and shot to death in Kocho. "Scores of men and boys" summarily executed in Qiniyeh. More than 50 men "rounded up and shot dead" near Jolani.

Human Rights Watch also released a report on Tuesday. It offers new evidence about the massacre in Tikrit. "Information from a survivor and analysis of videos and satellite imagery has confirmed the existence of three more mass execution sites," says the report. That brings the death toll

to "between 560 and 770 men." The captives were shot dead while lying in trenches with their hands bound.

For a more complete tally of the carnage, check out the U.N.'s latest casualty figures for Iraq. The 1,265 civilians killed in August, combined with 1,186 in July and 1,531 in June, yield a total of 6,861 so far this year, and 9,826 over the last 12 months. The report doesn't specify how much of the killing was done by the Islamic State, but it does say that "thousands continue to be targeted and killed [by the Islamic State] and associated armed groups simply on account of their ethnic or religious background." These figures don't include the uncollectable data from Anbar province — which covers half the Syrian border and nearly one-third of Iraq — or any of the nearly 200,000 people killed in the Syrian civil war.

You won't find these deaths recorded for your viewing convenience. Some are included in videos for jihadist recruitment, but those aren't for you. What the Islamic State wants you to see are the murders of the two Americans.

Don't watch them. Go read about the dead boys, the raped girls, and the captive villagers gunned down for refusing to renounce their faith. Those are the people who die every day at the hands of the Islamic State. They're the people whose countrymen we can still save, as we did on Mount Sinjar and in Amerli, by defying the message in the videos. Foley and Sotloff risked their lives, and ultimately gave them, to tell the world about these people. Don't let it be in vain.

David Ignatius is a member of Washington Post Writers Group.

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William Saleatan covers science, technology and politics for State.

OPINION

To save Wilderness Act, things must change

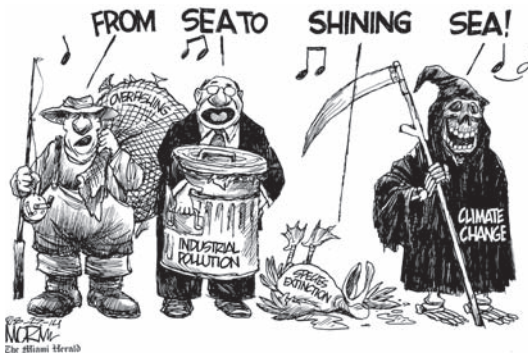
BY GARY FERGUSON

Fifty years ago this week, President Lyndon B. Johnson strolled out to the Rose Garden, pressed a fountain pen between the fingers of his hefty right hand and signed into law the highest level of protection ever afforded the American landscape. "If future generations are to remember us with gratitude rather than contempt," Johnson said later, "we must leave them something more than the miracles of technology. We must leave them a glimpse of the world as it was in the beginning."

On that day, America gained a wilderness preservation system. Initially containing some 9 million acres, the system now protects more than 109 million acres from California to Alaska to Florida to New Jersey; every acre afforded the simple right to unfold unshackled by human inventions or appetites.

Johnson's enthusiasm was in part a nod to the fact that in 1964, nature was on the run. We were by then well on our way to spreading more than a billion pounds of DDT on the American landscape. Rampant clear-cutting was happening in Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Northern California, including the decimation of many of the last privately held sequoia groves. Wild rivers were dammed. Rural states had offered government-sponsored bounties on a wide range of "bad" animals: mountain lions and coyotes, wolves and weasels, hawks and owls.

Even so, for many Americans, wild landscapes were still a major means both of celebrating the roots of our nation's past and for defining the nature of our generosity to future generations. Across our history, periods of environmental abuse have tended to lead to fierce, highly patriotic indignation. Which is a big part of why the Wilderness Act became law with such a stunning level of consensus, passing unanimously in



the Senate and with just a single dissenting vote in the House. Arguably, if the act does nothing more today than remind environmentalists of the patriotic power of conservation, it would be doing a lot.

But in fact wilderness does much more. Ecological economists J.B. Loomis and Robert Richardson have estimated wilderness preserves in the Lower 48 states are providing air and water filtering, carbon storage and climate regulation services worth more than \$3 billion annually. In addition, wilderness use supports some 24,000 jobs, and is part of an outdoor recreation industry that sees roughly \$650 million each year in consumer spending.

But beyond all that, the wilderness preservation system forms an invaluable set of baselines for showing us what healthy, natural systems look like. On the other

hand, these baselines allow scientists to gain the knowledge needed to restore damage already done, including rehabilitating salmon fisheries in the Northwest. At the same time, wilderness areas teach us the fundamental needs of natural systems in the face of climate change.

This latter benefit will only become more important in decades to come. Taking full advantage of it, however, will require two things: First, given that some species can't survive in the face of the rapidly shifting habitats that climate change induces, we'll need to expand the size of some of our current wilderness preserves.

Yet even if that happens — and the political climate today is hardly friendly to such notions — many species simply won't be able to migrate quickly enough from their current habitats to more suitable ground.

Unless wilderness managers assist in those migrations, actually moving or planting threatened species to more appropriate habitats, those species will become regionally extinct.

And this is where things get really sticky. Although the current Wilderness Act allows great flexibility — providing for all sorts of special actions so long as the original intentions of the act are honored — it can be argued that relocating species to areas where historically they never occurred is prohibited by the law.

Unquestionably, in the coming years the courts will hear a variety of challenges to the idea of wilderness managers using these sorts of tools. On the one hand, we can hardly fault those who object. As ecologist Frank Egler pointed out more than 30 years ago, "Ecosystems are not only more complex than we think. They're more complex than we can think." Time and again we've found out the hard way that just when we thought we were being helpful, we were actually causing harm.

With this in mind, even if the courts do grant increased power to wilderness managers to do this, like assist migration, it seems prudent to allow some wilderness preserves to continue under the more traditional "hands-off" policy. The challenge will be knowing what to do, where.

This 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act finds us facing something unimaginable in 1964: Today, no landscape on Earth is free of the effects of human-caused climate change. If wilderness is to continue to be characterized by healthy watersheds and vigorous biodiversity, some of its provisions will have to be reinterpreted. Only then can we hope to minimize the enormous climate changes we're unwittingly unleashing.

Gary Ferguson's latest book is "The Carry Home: Lessons From the American Wilderness," which will be published in November. This column first appeared in the Los Angeles Times.

Apple's reliance on cloud presents security problems

BY DAVID AUERBACH

State

In the wake of the theft of the private data and photos of dozens of celebrities, there is at least one major culprit. Not the alleged leakers, though obviously they're to blame, but the company that has most prominently overstated its security in the first place: Apple.

Apple is currently delighted that people are talking about how you shouldn't take naked photos of yourself in the first place, but make no mistake: Apple has been probably irresponsible with users' security.

What is clear is that Apple has had a known security vulnerability in its iCloud service for months and has been careless about protecting its users. Apple patched this vulnerability shortly after the leak, so even if we're not sure of exactly how the photos got hacked, evidently Apple thinks it might have had something to do with it.

Whether this particular vulnerability was used to gather some of the photos, its existence is reason enough for users to be deeply upset at their beloved company for not taking security seriously enough.

Here are five reasons why you should not trust Apple with your nude photos or, really, with any of your data.

1. The vulnerability is Security 101 stuff.

Up until Monday, Apple had a significant and known brute-force vulnerability in its Find My iPhone service, where you type in your Apple ID and password on your

computer in order to locate your iPhone on a map. Most services that use passwords, from Facebook to Google to banks, will lock your account or at least throttle logon attempts after a certain number of failed access tries to prevent a person who is not you from making endless guesses at common passwords. Apple itself will do this in most places — but not through its Find My iPhone service, where hackers are allowed unlimited attempts at guessing passwords. Once a correct Apple ID password is confirmed through Find My iPhone, a hacker then has access to your iCloud account. So a hacker could simply run an automated tool and knock on the door enough times with password guesses until he broke through.

2. The vulnerability was publicly known since May.

A Russian security group called Hack-App released iBute, a proof-of-concept tool to exploit this vulnerability, on Aug. 30. But don't blame them, because the celebrity hacking probably took place quite a while before that. The Register publicized the lack of any sort of limit on iCloud logon attempts in May, and Apple did nothing about it, giving hackers plenty of time to bash away at accounts. Even after iBute was publicly released, Apple didn't patch the vulnerability until Sept. 1 and did nothing to secure accounts in the meantime.

3. Apple defaults users into the cloud.

Clouds are wispy and ephemeral, the very opposite of secure, so why would you want to store anything in them? No one particularly does: Cloud storage has been

forced on users because it suits tech companies, not because it's what's best for consumers. But Apple makes it very hard not to store photos in its cloud, nude or otherwise. Camera Roll automatically backs up photos (all photos) to the cloud by default, and Apple makes it difficult for average users to change the default. It's worked. And it's too bad, because whatever you store on the cloud has far less legal and security protection than what's on your own computer. Even deleting photos from your phone doesn't delete them from the cloud, as security expert Nik Cubrilovic pointed out on Twitter. Defaulting to the cloud is like checking baggage on an airline: People might look through your stuff, and even steal it. And like the airlines, Apple's liability is strictly limited by the extremely generous (to Apple) agreement you sign when you purchase any of its products.

4. Apple does not encourage two-factor authentication.

The false sense of security Apple creates by offering two-factor authentication and then not enforcing it is appalling. Two-factor authentication, in which physical possession of a particular device (like a phone) is necessary to log in to an account, is one of the most common and effective supplements to the problematic security of regular passwords. Google, Yahoo, Facebook, Twitter and many other services offer two-factor, though rarely by default. Still, as the Daily Dot writes, "For reasons that defy all logic, Apple makes it extraordinarily difficult to enable two-step

verification," making users wait three days just to turn it on. Apple controls the default user experience for its products, and it has the responsibility for that default to be reasonably secure — which it currently is not.

5. Two-factor authentication wouldn't have worked anyway.

Even if you were a celebrity who had enabled two-factor authentication, it wouldn't have helped in this case because Apple doesn't enforce two-factor authentication for iCloud logons even if you have it turned on, as was reported by Ars Technica all the way back in May of 2013. Apple primarily uses two-factor to prevent credit card purchases, not to protect the privacy of your data. Though probably the least exploited loophole (due to the difficulty of using Apple's two-factor in the first place), this is perhaps the most shepherding irresponsible security decision Apple has made.

These are all problems Apple has known about for months, if not years, and did nothing to stop. Apple's two-factor is still fundamentally broken, so even today Apple loopholes the responsibility of security can offer to its users. This is not to excuse any other services that may have been compromised, nor the hackers themselves. But whether any of these problems were directly responsible for the leak, Apple users, from Jennifer Lawrence to you, should be out for blood.

Apple will probably survive though. iPhones are so cool and pretty.

David Auerbach is a writer and software engineer based in New York.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Asteroid to zoom within 25,000 miles of Earth

FL CAPE CANAVERAL — A newly discovered asteroid will buzz Earth this week.

At closest approach Sunday, the 60-foot rock will pass a safe 25,000 miles over New Zealand. That's about one-tenth the distance between here and the moon. It's also beyond the orbit of our highest communication and weather satellites.

NASA said this latest near-Earth asteroid — called 2014 RC — poses no threat to either the home planet or orbiting spacecraft. A space rock of about the same size blasted through the atmosphere over Russia's Ural Mountains in 2013, causing considerable damage.

Astronomers in Arizona detected 2014 RC the night of Aug. 31.

Stargazers will need telescopes to see Sunday's flyby. If you miss it, don't worry. It will be back in the neighborhood again one day.

Shark attack terrifies kayakers

MA PLYMOUTH — A pleasant trip by two Massachusetts kayakers to check out some cute seals turned terrifying as the pair encountered a great white shark.

Ida Parker and Kristin Orr, who describe themselves as experienced kayakers, said they were about 150 yards off shore Wednesday evening taking pictures of seals when something came up from beneath and tried to take a bite out of one kayak, spilling both of them into the water.

"It happened so fast," Orr said. "I was talking to (Parker) and the next minute, I'm in the water and I just see a shark biting my kayak."

Parker got an up-close look. "It was dark gray, pointy nose, big teeth, big eyes," Parker said. "It was like right next to me. It was petrifying."

The fish swam away and the Plymouth harbor master rescued the women, both in their 20s, after a bystander called 911.

A spokeswoman for the state Division of Marine Fisheries said an agency expert determined that it was a great white shark from a tooth fragment and the bite radius left in one of the kayakers.

Man charged in 3 recent burglaries

WI SHEBOYGAN — A 39-year-old Sheboygan man was charged with three counts of burglary after police said he was caught eating leftovers out of the fridge of a home he broke into.

Ryan Lodygowski faces more than 22 years in prison if convicted. He is also connected to two other recent burglaries, according to police.

The homeowner called police Aug. 27 to report the incident, a criminal complaint said. The suspect ran away and dropped credit cards after he was confronted by the homeowner. The victim said keys to his home, work and car were missing, along with \$30.

The complaint said police

THE CENSUS

43½

The number of socks retrieved from the stomach of a 3-year-old Great Dane by a veterinarian in Portland, Ore. The dog was miserable and retching when his owners rushed him to an emergency animal hospital, where Dr. Ashley Magee removed the garments after nearly two hours of surgery. A spokeswoman for DoveLewis Emergency Animal Hospital said the dog was discharged home a day after surgery.



ANDREW KRECH, (WILKES-BARRE, PA.) CITIZENS' VOICE/AP

Soaring star

Trampoline performer Ella Hansen catches some air between shows Wednesday at the Luzerne County Fair in Dallas, Pa. Ella is the youngest member of the Hansen family, traveling acrobats from Sarasota, Fla., whose performance "Hansen's Spectacular" is playing through Sunday at the fair.

matched Lodygowski to the victim's description when they spotted him near the home about two hours later. Police said he told them he keeps his belongings under a trash can at Fountain Park because he's homeless.

Police said they found a digital camera in Lodygowski's backpack that had disappeared in a burglary three days earlier at First Presbyterian Church and Sheboygan County Head Start. The Rev. Richard Manny also reported \$1,000 and a laptop were missing from the church office.

A third burglary victim, who had his iPhone and iPad stolen on Aug. 24, was discovered during the investigation, according to police. The man lives next door to the Aug. 27 victim and said he found his iPhone in a trash can at Fountain Park after locating it with an app.

It's birthing time for venomous snake

DC WASHINGTON — It's birthing season for the Washington area's only venomous snake.

Female copperheads that became pregnant this year are giving birth to their young throughout

September. Each mother gives birth to between eight and 10 babies at once.

But Maryland Department of Natural Resources ecologist Scott Smith said only 10 percent to 25 percent of those baby snakes will live through the winter to reach adulthood.

As if the multiplying of snakes isn't scary enough, Smith said baby snakes lack muscle control. So if they bite a victim, they're more likely to release all their venom.

Adult copperheads tend to release only the amount of venom necessary to incapacitate their normal prey, moles and voles.

Copperhead bites are dangerous, but rarely are fatal.

Albino cobra caught after days on lam

CA THOUSAND OAKS — A deadly albino cobra that ran loose for days in a Southern California neighborhood was captured Thursday.

"We are overjoyed. We are glad that the public was not harmed," Los Angeles County spokesman Brandon Dowling said after county animal control officers nabbed the monocolored cobra shortly after 3 p.m.

Television reports showed officers using a long-handled tong-like grabber to haul the snake from a pile of scrap lumber in a backyard and put it in a long wooden box.

The snake, which is several feet long, had been on the loose since at least Monday evening, when it reportedly bit a dog.

Cobras are illegal to own in California except for educational and scientific purposes, and a permit is required.

Judge orders attorney to wear socks in court

IN HARTFORD CITY — An attorney who habitually appears in court without socks faces sanctions including possible fines if he shows up without them again in one Indiana courtroom.

Blackford Circuit Judge Dean Young issued an Aug. 25 order directing attorney Todd Glickfield of Marion to wear appropriate business attire, including socks and a tie, in future proceedings in Young's Hartford City courtroom.

Glickfield appeared without socks in Young's court on Aug. 22. The order says that during a break in proceedings, the court advised Glickfield that he wasn't appropriately dressed as required

by court rules. The order says Glickfield replied, "I hate socks."

The order also states Glickfield previously appeared in court without a tie and with an open-collared shirt.

Friends work to save 'bucket bear'

PA PARKER — A group of friends has tracked down and helped to save a western Pennsylvania bear that got its head stuck in a bucket-like contraption.

The group posted cellphone video to the Facebook page titled "Save the 'Bucket Bear'" after they were able to track down the bear and subdue it during the weekend.

Samantha Eigenbrod recorded the rescue on her cellphone. The bear's head wasn't really stuck in a bucket, but rather in a device related to an automobile air bag that got stuck on the bear's head. The animal was able to breathe by chewing a hole in the device.

Eigenbrod's friends tackled the bear and took about 30 to 40 minutes to cut off the device with a hacksaw. The bear then ran away, apparently unharmed.

From wire reports

HEALTH & FITNESS

Fit a workout into your workday

By LESLIE BARKER
The Dallas Morning News

Next to “the dog ate my homework,” one of the most lamebrain excuses around might be this one: “Work keeps me too busy to exercise.”

To that, we roll our eyes, engage our core and lift both feet off the ground slowly, hold for a breath or two, and lower them.

“Do you have 60 seconds?” asks Dallas-area personal trainer Kristi Dear. “Do you have two minutes?”

Of course you do. How long does it take to heat your leftovers in the break room microwave? How much time do you spend on the phone? Not to get too personal, but how often do you make a restroom trek?

Incorporate just five moving bouts of 60 seconds (or 10 of 30) throughout your day, and by the time you go home, that’s 10 minutes. By week’s end, it’s 50.

“You could hold in a squat when you’re on the phone,” says Dear.

But, she concedes, “People would walk by and go, ‘What?’”

For a subtler approach, we asked Trina Hall, an experienced registered yoga teacher, and Dallas personal trainer Turner Cavender for in-office suggestions. These moves won’t necessitate a shower, says Cavender, who owns Dallas Fit Body Boot Camp, but “your body is getting blood moving around.”

We divided the tips into three categories necessary for all-around fitness: cardio, strength and flexibility.

Cardio

Take the stairs. Obvious? Maybe. But how often do you find yourself waiting for the elevator when the stairwell is just around the corner? Take them two steps at a time one flight, one step the next. Is your cubicle on the first floor? Use the restroom on the second.

Stand up. Set your phone or watch timer, and every 30 minutes, get your bottom out of the chair. Use the time to assess your to-do list, Cavender says. Or get a drink of water.

“Get the blood flowing. This helps eliminate back problems. When you’re seated for so long, your hip flexors shorten and that pulls on your lower back. The shorter they are, the more pain you have.”

If you’re awaiting a call or a visit from your boss and don’t want to leave your

desk, stand up and sit down a few times every half-hour or so.

Move your feet. Walking to lunch, yes, but also while you’re sitting down. Do so when you’re on the phone, or reading a report.

“Tap your toes on the floor for a minute straight,” Cavender says. Alternate feet, or do them at the same time. Feel those calf muscles?

Strength

Practice your pushups. Do them against the stairs — if the stairwell is empty and you don’t mind putting your hands where others put their feet. Or you can perfect your push-up prowess against the break room countertop while your coffee is heating. Dear says.

Do them slowly or see how many you can do in those 30 to 45 seconds. Position your hands various distances apart.

Tone your triceps. Eliminate jelly arms by placing your hands on a bathroom sink or break room countertop behind you. Extend your legs until you are balancing on your heels. Bend your elbows and dip, then straighten, in sort of an inverted pushup. Repeat until it feels uncomfortable.

Tone your triceps II. For the next two exercises, Dear recommends connecting two large (5 to 6 inches) rubber bands. Hold one end in your right hand. Bending your elbow, let the other end drop behind your back. Grasp it with your left hand. Keeping that hand steady, straighten your right elbow. Do each side for a minute, tightening the tension as weeks go by and the exercise becomes easier.

Dear prefers time to reps. “If I said to do 25, one person may say, ‘That didn’t work,’ and another would say, ‘That’s hard!’”

As you get stronger with this and the following exercise, work on increasing the number of reps you do each minute.

Strengthen your legs. Put one loop of the connected rubber bands around each ankle. With knees bent and feet on the floor, straighten and bend each leg for one minute. Make it tougher by doing quick pulses, bending your knee slightly without letting your foot touch the floor. See how many reps you can do in a minute.

For another challenge, start with feet on the floor. One leg at a time, lift the knee to the chest, keeping your back straight.

If using the bands is too difficult, start without them and build up.



Personal trainer Kristi Dear demonstrates two exercises that can be done at work.

Above: Use connected rubber bands to strengthen legs. Put one loop of the connected rubber bands around each ankle. With knees bent and feet on the floor, straighten and bend each leg for one minute.

Right: Practice pushups against a countertop. Position hands various distances apart, and do them slowly for 30 to 45 seconds.

PHOTOS BY ANDY JACOBSON, THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS/MCT



Flexibility

Ease low-back tightness with the Seated Pigeon.

For this yoga move, Hall says, sit straight in your chair. Rest your right ankle over your left thigh. Straighten your spine and lean forward until you feel a stretch in your lower back. Hold for 10 deep breaths through the nose. Switch sides.

Stretch shoulders and neck. For this, known as Eagle Arms, sit straight in your chair. Extend your arms at shoulder height

in front of your body. Bend your elbows up; put your left elbow in the crook of your right arm. Without letting your elbows drop, put your right hand on your left shoulder, and your left hand on your right shoulder, “like you’re giving yourself a hug,” Hall says. Hold for 10 breaths. Repeat on the other side.

For a deeper stretch, take your hands off your shoulders and touch your palms.

“This opens the shoulders, upper back and neck,” she says. “It’s good for the person who sits at a computer, hunched over a keyboard.”

STARS AND STRIPES Patriot Day 5k Run

www.stripes.com

NSA BAHRAIN – SEPT. 11

PATRIOT DAY

RUN

BAHRAIN 2014



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- Register the same day at 6:00 a.m.
- Runners will receive a **FREE T-shirt** (while supplies last)

Stop by our booth for your chance to WIN iPad Minis compliments of Stars and Stripes!

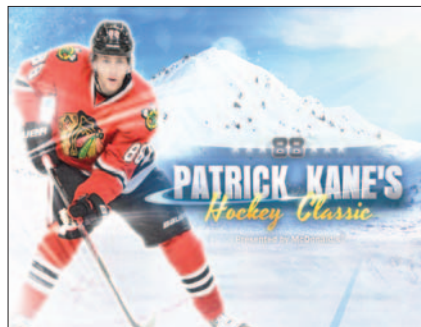
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ENTERTAINMENT



"Kim Kardashian: Hollywood" lets you follow the star on a red-carpet adventure. Users of the free app create their own celebrity and can customize their look with hundreds of style options.



Chicago Blackhawks and Team USA hockey star Patrick Kane invites you to take a shot at glory in Patrick Kane's Hockey Classic.

Tapping their appeal

Celebs, game creators cash in on Hollywood-based apps

By PARESH DAVE
Los Angeles Times

In the latest video game sensation, the player encounters an attractive stranger at a bar and must make a difficult choice: flirt or network.

The goal: climb the Hollywood food chain and transform from a starving no-name to a rich-and-famous A-listier.

The game, based on the life of Kim Kardashian West, has turned into a surprise summer hit, stirring buzz in Hollywood and raising expectations about possible payoffs from injecting stars, blockbusters and hit series into video games, particularly those developed for smartphones and tablets.

Launched less than two months ago, "Kim Kardashian: Hollywood" is already among the top five moneymakers in the iPhone app store and top 10 in the Google Play store, according to tracking firm App Annie. It's on pace to gross \$200 million by next summer, according to one estimate, which would place it among the top mobile game apps.

Blockbuster Hollywood TV shows and movies have long inspired console or computer video games. But Kardashian's success is opening a new front for mobile games.

"In Hollywood, when they are losing the predictability of things like the DVD business, there's an unparalleled opportunity to get into the gaming business," said Nicolo de Masi, chief executive of Glu Games Inc., which made the Kardashian game app.

Under scoring the shift, market research firm IDC estimates U.S.

spending on video games could rise to \$30 billion by 2020, matching the flat-lining spending on movies.

"It's inexorable that more entertainment-oriented companies are going to have to develop transmedia," IDC gaming analyst Lewis Ward said, referring to the industry's buzzword for movie-gaming collaborations.

Top Hollywood-based games "The Hobbit: Kingdoms of Middle-earth" and "The Simpsons: Tapped Out" have each made more than \$100 million in a year. The top-grossing overall mobile game, "Candy Crush Saga," booked nearly \$1.5 billion in sales in 2013 and is on pace to exceed that this year.

"Kardashian" is the first breakout app based on an individual, though apps inspired by public figures including Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt and singer Jennifer Lopez saw limited success when smartphone ownership wasn't as widespread.

Smartphones and tablets have made it as simple as a tap on a screen for anyone to become a "gamer." There are no bulky consoles, confusing controllers or upfront costs to purchase a game.

That might be one reason why "Kardashian" and mobile app games are gaining popularity: Ease of use is drawing new people to gaming, including women. Mobile analysts and advertising firm Flurry recently found that women spent 35 percent more time than men in mobile games and made 31 percent more in-app purchases.

De Masi told analysts that Kardashian's game probably turned many of her social media fans,



Lead Gandalf, Bilbo, Legolas and more in a battle to defeat the forces of evil in "The Hobbit: Kingdoms of Middle-earth."

who he said skew wealthy and young, into "first-time gamers."

In "Kardashian," players must lead their character through shopping malls, photo shoots, dating and other celebrity escapades. Users tap on a door, for example, to enter a bar. There, they decide whether to flirt or network with a fellow patron. Such decisions send cash and rewards into the air, and the user taps on them to collect.

The key is balancing expenses — clothes and bus trips — with income from the tasks. Along the way, there are reminders like "Getting new clothing, cars, and homes can increase your star power for love and work."

Kardashian West, whose family stars on the reality TV show "Keeping Up with the Kardashians," airing in more than 100 countries, regularly appears in the game. It's free to play, but real

money buys more glamorous virtual clothing and energy boosts. Pop-up ads for other games also generate revenue.

"Kardashian" evolved from a game app franchise called "Stardom," which had been generating consistent revenue for San Francisco-based Glu. But it wasn't soaring. De Masi sought out Kardashian to add cachet, and now they chat via email daily about how to improve and update the game. Analysts expect Glu to capitalize on its success with sequels that feature more of the large Kardashian clan.

During a trip to Los Angeles last year, De Masi also struck deals with studios. Glu plans to make games based on the Terminator for Skydance Productions and James Bond for EON Productions and MGM Interactive, which invested in Glu. Games for "RoboCop" from MGM and for "Hercules" from Paramount Pictures and MGM have already launched.

Merging a solid game with global star power is catching on as studios and talent agencies increasingly partner with app makers searching for the next viral hit.

Creative Artists Agency, for example, invested in game publisher Moonshark, a three-person startup that now operates out of the talent agency's Century City headquarters.

With CAA's help, Moonshark reached a deal with a Chicago Blackhawks star to create the mobile game "Patrick Kane's Hockey Classic." Using Kane's

name attracts new users, and it's cheaper to split profits with him than to market the game through advertising, said Andrew Chan, Moonshark's chief executive.

Apps benefit stars by allowing them to make money off their online followers without the hassle of negotiating Twitter or Facebook endorsement deals. The money can be significant, said Cowen & Co. analyst Doug Creutz. He estimated that Kardashian, 33, receives 50 percent of her game's profit, meaning the app could pay her more than the \$28 million a year that Forbes estimates she earns from other sources.

The larger challenge for studios is making game apps a bigger chunk of their profits. Of the six major studios, only Walt Disney Co. details the finances of its games-related division. That unit accounted for 2 percent of Disney's \$12.47 billion in revenue in the most recent completed quarter, the company said last week. But the interactive division has strung together four straight quarters of profitability, with mobile games "Tsum Tsum" and "Frozen Free Fall" providing a "nice uplift" in the most recent quarter, according to Disney.

"Movies and DVDs and TV syndication are temporal events," said Chris Petrovic, head of corporate development at mobile game developer Kabam Inc. Warner Bros. is an investor in the company. "Games are a persistent, connective tissue. It's clear the industry is finding success and taking their entire catalog to market to find homes for them."



Homer accidentally causes a meltdown that wipes out Springfield in "The Simpsons: Tapped Out." It's up to players to rebuild the town.

VIDEO GAMES

'Madden 15' best game in series in years

Latest installment delivers on defense, offers improved gameplay

By MICHAEL DARNELL
Stars and Stripes

Madden and I go way back. Far enough so that my long-suffering Buffalo Bills were once a team I was able to choose and still have a reasonable expectation of victory.

Just like Buffalo, Madden has seen its share of ups and downs throughout its 26-year run, but unlike the hapless Bills, this year's installment has shown great signs of improvement over its recent lackluster history.

"Madden NFL 15" is the second game in the series to hit the most recent console generation, and that shows in the presentation. The player models are crafted down to the most minute detail. Animations continue to improve, especially in the interaction between the linemen on plays.

The game is still held back a bit graphically by concurrent development on the previous generation of consoles, but not to the point where it is a hindrance to the game. Don't expect to be blown away by the visuals, and you'll likely have no complaints with how it looks.

The real improvements this year are in the small gameplay tweaks that make "Madden 15" feel a bit more exciting to play on both sides of the ball.

The most immediate improvement is in the passing game. Developer EA Sports has finally nailed down the balance in the passing game. Gone are the linebackers who can leap eight feet in the air to intercept a lob, and gone are the days in which crossing routes



Overall grade: **B+**

were nearly unstoppable.

Defenders, even on lower difficulty settings, play more like actual football players. They make more plays on the ball, meaning that the ridiculous amount of yards you could rack up in the past against the AI are gone. Well, at least with E.J. Manuel as the quarterback. I left many games with stats similar to Manuel's actual production, which stings a bit as a fan, but as a gamer I can respect the reflection of real life. It's also worth noting that sidelines seem to draw receivers out of bounds, making seam and out routes a bit more difficult to pull off.

The other major gameplay improvement is on the other side of the ball. Defenders now have a cone of vision that lets players choose between a safe tackle that will likely never result in a jarred ball, or a big hit stick tackle that has a good chance of missing. This type of system has been attempted before, but it actually works this time around.

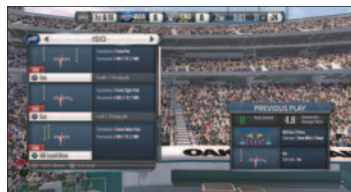
Defensive linemen also get some improvements, most notably in a better disengagement mechanic that makes a run up the middle a more risky play choice than in the past. There are still some problems with hit detection on the line, which is slightly disappointing. Sometimes linemen will still seem to be magnetized to one other, independent of player input. Even still, the minor tweaks to the defensive side of the ball make it actually enjoyable to play this year, a first since the introduction of the hit stick.

The wonky hit detection is even more noticeable in the run game, though. Rushing in some Madden installments was nearly unstoppable. It's more accurate than ever in "Madden 15," with fewer long runs and more small pickups, but it comes at a price.

The slightest touch from a defensive lineman will often send even top-tier backs spiraling out of control, and linebackers gain super speed on tackles past the line. You will very often find yourself get-

ting tackled from a linebacker that was way too far away to reasonably make the play. Those are small quibbles, though, and it's done in the interest of keeping C-listers from performing like Adrian Peterson in his prime.

Madden has fluctuated on its gameplay modes in the past, but it's fair to say that "Madden 15" doesn't have that problem. From the normal franchise mode to the Madden Ultimate Team to the coaches and owner modes to the improved superstar mode, "Madden 15" is easily one of



the most packed installments in terms of ways to play.

The Madden Ultimate Team is still geared too heavily toward encouraging players to plunk down real-world money for points to unlock player packs, but patient gamers can build a competitive team without spending a dime.

Your team will start with players who will likely never see a real snap in the NFL this year, but by passing milestones and challenges, coins are unlocked that allow you to purchase new packs containing better players. The best stuff still costs an absurd amount of coins, or, of course, points purchased with money. I felt as if the grind to get actual starters was too slow and abandoned the mode for more traditional games.

The create-a-player franchise mode — where you take a player from rookie to NFL superstar — is where I spent most of my offline gaming time. Building a player from scrub to MVP is always fun, and the tweets from NFL reporters (including appropriately negative ones from Skip Bayless) add to the fantasy of being an NFL star.

Overall, "Madden 15" is easily the best game in the series in the past four or five years. It's still rough in some spots, and the decision to continue to make the game about the spectacle of football rather than the game itself gets in the way — especially with things like this year's unskipable introduction — but the gameplay holds up. The small tweaks to the gameplay are welcome, and the nearly endless modes of play will keep fans busy until the inevitable "Madden 16."

Bottom line: B+ "Madden 15" is better than it has been for years, and any fan not already playing will likely want to pick this up.

Platforms: PS4 (reviewed), Xbox One, PS3, Xbox 360
Online: easports.com/madden-nfl

With improved player emotion and contextual awareness, "Madden NFL 15" mimics the feeling of watching a football game on television.

Screenshots by Michael Darnell/Stars and Stripes



Many more staff-written game reviews at stripes.com/military-life

LIFESTYLE



PHOTOS BY BILL HOAG/Chicago Tribune

River Street in Batavia, Ill., has no curbs, traffic stripes or crosswalks. The remodeled street is now a “woonerf,” a Dutch concept that gives equal priority to cyclists, pedestrians and drivers. On Saturday mornings, cars are banned, tents appear, and the street is transformed into a vibrant farmers market.

STREETWISE BY DESIGN

Square modeled on Dutch curbless concept revives Illinois town’s dying center

By BLAIR KAMIN
Chicago Tribune

Possibly the last place you’d expect to find a radical experiment in resuscitating a dying downtown would be in Batavia, Ill., population 26,000, about 40 miles west of Chicago.

And yet, by American standards, a block-and-a-half stretch of Batavia’s River Street is radical indeed.

This stretch, which runs parallel to Fox River, has no curbs, no traffic stripes and no crosswalks. Instead, a continuous carpet of red and brown bricks unfurls from buildings on one side of the street to the other. Pedestrians and cyclists share the street with slow-moving cars. The people on foot can cross anywhere they want. On Saturday mornings, when the cars are kicked out entirely, tents appear, and the street is transformed into a vibrant farmers market.

The Dutch call this kind of communal street a *woonerf* (pronounced VONE-erf), which translates roughly to “living street.” Such streets, also known as shared streets or complete streets, have been commonplace in Europe for



Bicyclists and pedestrians traverse River Street in Batavia, Ill. The block and a half stretch is a continuous carpet of bricks that is friendly to all forms of traffic, including slow-moving cars.

decades. Now they’re popping up around the United States, challenging the order in which the car is king.

The one in Batavia, touted by its designers as the first *woonerf* in the Midwest, is a handsome success that has boosted pedestrian traffic and business fortunes. The project just won an award from the Illinois chapter of the American Society of Landscape

Architects.

As shaped by the Chicago firm Altamano and its chief designer, Josephine Bellalta, the *woonerf* is a small but significant antidote to the car-oriented rows of strip malls and franchise outlets that have sprung up in generic suburbs everywhere. River Street has a distinctive sense of place.

There are muscular old buildings made of locally quarried

limestone. Several restaurants line the street. A nearby pedestrian bridge across the Fox River lures cyclists zipping along a riverfront bike trail. The *woonerf*, which cost about \$2.8 million and included underground pipes and other infrastructure upgrades, has nicely tied these things together since its completion last year.

The idea is to make a shared outdoor place that invites people to pause and partake, not just pass through. In that spirit, custom-designed wood benches offer places to sit. More seating is built into hardy granite planters, which hold trees and grasses.

There’s ample space for restaurants to put out cafe seating. Ornamental fencing designed by local artists adds a decorative touch. You can ditch your car in a city-owned parking deck along the street. As you enter River Street, a traffic sign spells out the rules: Pedestrians, bicyclists and vehicles share the road.

The concept seems to be working, though the street wasn’t exactly jumping with people when I visited on a recent weekday afternoon. Fears that the novel arrangement would cause traffic

accidents have proved unfounded, according to the Batavia police department. And the street is fulfilling its promise as a civic space. It provided a perfect, car-free spot for people to gather and celebrate when the Batavia High School Bulldogs won the Class 6A state football title last year.

Restaurants like the just-opened Gaetano’s have set up shop along the *woonerf*, attracted by the exposure they get from the well-attended farmers markets. Businesses, like the Instrument Exchange music store, receive additional foot traffic as people stroll after dining out.

“I love it,” Tom Stading, the store’s owner, said of the street design.

The new streetscape isn’t just helping business. It’s changing the way people like Gaetano Di Benedetto, Gaetano’s co-owner, think about doing business. The restaurateur said he plans to set out a table on market days for cooking demonstrations — a prospect that pleased Altamano principal John MacManus. It’s a “living street,” MacManus said. “You take your business outside. It’s not just behind the glass.”

BOOKS

AN ODE TO CROSSWORDS

British author's overview of the history of word puzzles is right on the mark

By DINESH RAMDE
The Associated Press

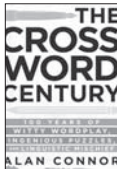
If you love solving crosswords, you know how it feels to be in the fraternity. There's the rush of matching wits with a mysterious puzzle-maker, the thrill of nailing an elusive answer and the satisfaction of filling in the final square.

There's a charm in playing the game, a charm that can be hard to describe. But Alan Connor, a British quizmaster who writes a column on crosswords for the Guardian newspaper, is more than up to the challenge.

Connor is the author of "The Crossword Century: 100 Years of Witty Wordplay, Ingenious Puzzles, and Linguistic Mischief." The book details the history and evolution of crosswords since the first one appeared in 1913. But what makes it such a fun read is Connor's evident passion for all things

crossword.

"The moments you spend in a puzzle have the potential to shut out the outside world for a blessedly silent period," he says. "You return refreshed from a happier place."



Indeed. Solvers recognize that feeling, but it's nice to be reassured that others share our appreciation. Crosswords are largely a solitary affair, so it's easy to lose sight of how many share our bond.

Connor traces the history of crosswords across newspapers and Hollywood. But his deeper message is when he preaches charmingly to the choir, reaffirming to crossword fans without a

hint of smugness why their obsession feels so satisfying.

He clearly relishes the ambiguity of the English language, as when he recounts clues such as "Die of cold?" for ICE CUBE.

He also appreciates the choreography between the puzzle creator and solver.

"Yes, the constructor is aiming to lose gracefully and intends you to decrypt every clue," he notes. "But that doesn't mean the crossword should simply crumble before the novice. There has to be a degree of bloodshed."

One of the most interesting chapters is his paean to one of the most famous puzzles of all: a 1996 New York Times gem in which the solver is asked what the next day's headline will be. The answer was designed so the intersecting letters could spell either CLINTONELECTED or BOB-DOLEELECTED.

While Connor spends plenty of ink ap-

preciating the crossword, he also devotes several chapters to its British cousin, the cryptic. He tries to teach readers how to decipher a cryptic's maddening clues — with limited luck.

For example, we're supposed to recognize that the answer to "Strange I should tan poorly" is OUTLANDISH, an anagram of "I should tan." Seriously?

Despite Connor's best efforts, he might not inspire many crossword fans to tackle cryptics. But with his short chapters and crisp, elegant writing, he does give them a fresh appreciation for their crossword obsession.

"To tackle a crossword is to enjoy the experience of your brain pulling on many different areas simultaneously, working in a way that everyday life rarely calls for," he says.

Crossword lovers will certainly relate.



Your Face in Mine

Jess Row

Race is the impossible subject of this new novel, the incendiary issue that conquers and divides. And yet, Row drives into this inflammatory subject head-on with thought-provoking bravado.

"Your Face in Mine" opens with Kelly Thorne, a Baltimore native, on a trip back to his hometown after a tragedy, running into a man on the street whom he can't quite place. The man, who is black, greets him. "Kelly," he says. "It's Martin."

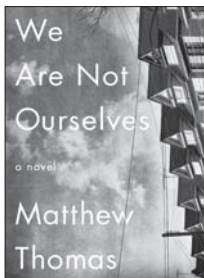
Martin Lipkin was a high school friend. White like Kelly, but not anymore. He's the recipient of voluntary racial-reassignment surgery.

But of course, willingly, eagerly changing your race — and hoping to monetize the process internationally by publicizing your deeply personal act — is not only a big thing; it's the biggest thing, a potent cultural hand grenade.

What happens to the world when altering our race becomes possible? Martin compares it to gender surgery. But as Kelly delves deeper into Martin's past, a troubling secret agenda emerges.

As we head toward a multithreaded future, Row has provided us with stimulating fuel for the ride.

— Connie Ogle
The Miami Herald



We Are Not Ourselves

Matthew Thomas

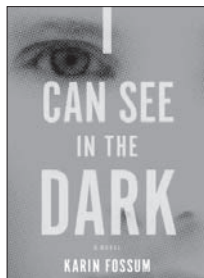
"We Are Not Ourselves" is an epic of small events. By that I don't mean its story is insignificant, but quotidian; the particular struggles of the day-to-day.

The book is centered around Eileen Tumulty, a daughter of the Irish working-class in Queens, N.Y. Eileen's existence is summed up in the first two syllables of that last name — tumult — or more accurately, in the drive to push past her limitations, which have been imposed in many ways by time and place.

Grace is hard to come by, at least for Eileen. Her husband, Edmund Leary, is a research scientist who turns down promotions to continue teaching at a community college. Their son, Connell, remains curiously recalcitrant, socially awkward and increasingly distanced the older he gets.

Thomas, who grew up in Queens, clearly understands his territory; at times, "We Are Not Ourselves" reads like a family history in its evocation of New York's outer boroughs and a second-tier suburbia of the 1990s, with their mix of immigrants and culture clash. He is unafraid to portray this in all its complexity, most acutely when it comes to Eileen, who recoils at the changing face of her community.

— David L. Ulin
Los Angeles Times



I Can See in the Dark

Karin Fossum

This taut, well-paced book is written from the point of view of a sociopath named Riktor. From the beginning, his observations reveal his distorted worldview.

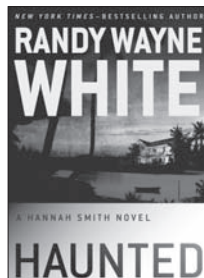
He works in a nursing home where he inflicts hidden cruelties on helpless residents. The title of the book comes from his claim that, indeed, he can see in the dark. Readers quickly learn, though, that reality and Riktor's view of reality often differ.

For most of the book, Riktor wrestles with irony. He's accused of doing something he didn't do, all the while knowing there are crimes he did commit that he hasn't been accused of — yet.

Page after page, layer after layer, Riktor reveals his madness and his growing separation from others and society in general.

"The pious will also perish, and we'll get no reward in heaven," he narrates mid-book. "So what was the point of exerting ourselves?" Considering he had just committed a terrible crime, it's chilling to see Riktor consider himself on the side of piety. The last line of the novel is especially chilling, considering Norway's tendency toward lenient criminal penalties. But it's perfect in the context of the character.

— Gary Jacobson
Dallas Morning News



Haunted

Randy Wayne White

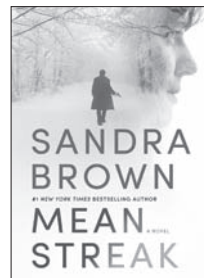
White has built a legacy exploring Florida's history and ecology. But an evocative look at Florida and its often-ignored role in the Civil War can't make up for a lack of action in "Haunted," his third novel about Hannah Smith, a Gulf Coast fishing guide and private detective.

Hannah is hired by Palm Beach socialite Bunny Tupplemeyer to investigate supernatural events supposedly happening in an abandoned historical house near the Caloosahatchee River. Bunny and the other investors planned to build condos on the land, but now she just wants out of the deal. If the roles that the house and land had during the Civil War were never mentioned during the deal, Bunny will be able to prove that the seller broke the disclosure law to get out of the investment. For clues to the house's past, Hannah reads her great-great-uncle's Civil War journal, which gives her a chilling, accurate account of often forgotten battles that happened in Florida.

Hannah, so well sculpted in the series' previous two novels, seems at sea here, as directionless as the plot.

Still, "Haunted" shows that White is a skilled tour guide for a visceral visit to Florida.

— Oline H. Coghill
Sun Sentinel



Mean Streak

Sandra Brown

Although Dr. Emory Charbonneau, a pediatrician and marathon runner, has a tumultuous relationship with her husband, Jeff, they are trying to work things out. She arranges to take a weekend off to head to the mountains to train for a marathon, but Jeff is furious, and they argue before she leaves.

Emory arrives at her destination, spends the night in a hotel and is on the trail the next morning. She receives a massive blow to the head and later wakes up inside a cabin. A man tells Emory that he found her unconscious and brought her to the cabin to administer first aid. When she asks for a ride back to civilization, he comes up with excuses to keep her inside and "safe."

Meanwhile, Jeff begins to wonder about his wife but believes she's still angry and is intentionally staying away from home. When the police begin to question him about her whereabouts, they start to think he's responsible for her disappearance.

A quick glance might invoke thoughts of a tale mixing Gillian Flynn's "Gone Girl" with Stephen King's "Misery," but as Brown unveils the full scope of the story, readers will be shocked and delighted about the direction "Mean Streak" takes.

— Jeff Ayers/AP

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BUSINESS/WEATHER

Tesla OKs Nev. offer of up to \$1.3B

By SCOTT SONNER
AND JUSTIN PRITCHARD
The Associated Press

CARSON CITY, Nev., — Gov. Brian Sandoval announced Thursday that Nevada would offer a high-stakes battle with four other states for Tesla Motors' coveted battery factory, but the win comes with a hefty price tag — up to \$1.3 billion in tax breaks and other incentives over 20 years that state lawmakers still must approve.

Sandoval revealed terms of the deal he negotiated with the electric car maker at a ceremony on the Capitol steps attended by Elon Musk, CEO of California-based Tesla. Musk could firm the search was over for a home for his \$5 billion lithium battery "gigafactory," which the company hopes will bring it closer to mass production of a more affordable electric car. The Republican governor called it a "monumental announcement that will change Nevada forever" and asserted that it would create

more than 22,000 jobs and would pump \$100 billion into the state's economy during the next 20 years — claims that critics said were exaggerated. Sandoval didn't mention the total value of the incentive package in his remarks but nonetheless anticipated potential criticism for the size of the package.

"Even the most skeptical economist would conclude that this is a strong return (on investment) for us," he said about the deal that already has drawn outside criticism from both the political left and the right that the tax breaks are too generous. So far, it has not encountered significant opposition from state lawmakers who must approve the incentives.

Musk told the audience that Nevada didn't offer the biggest incentive package among the five states that tried to lure the factory, though he didn't specify which did among California, Texas, Arizona, New Mexico and Nevada.

The most important considerations were not incentives, he

said, but rather a high confidence that the factory will be ready by 2017, followed by assurances that batteries can be produced cost-efficiently.

"It's a real get-things-done state," Musk said in explaining how Nevada prevailed in what was a "relatively close" competition.

Musk, who arrived from London just before the ceremony, briefly bungled the pronunciation of "Nevada." But he recovered and twice received standing ovations from more than 20 dignitaries.

Later, Musk told reporters that Tesla would stop looking for another state as a backup. "Nevada is it," he said.

The governor will call a special session of the Legislature as early as next week to seek approval of the incentives. Legislative leaders have reacted largely favorably at first blush.

House Speaker Marilyn Kirkpatrick, D-Las Vegas, said it represents "a significant opportunity to make a major stride to

boost the economy" in a state that led the nation in unemployment during the depths of the Great Recession.

Tesla's choice for the facility gets it closer to mass producing an electric car that costs about \$35,000 and can go 200 miles on a single charge. That range is critical because it lets people take most daily trips without recharging, a major barrier to the widespread adoption of electric vehicles.

MARKET WATCH

Sept. 4, 2014

Dow Jones Industrials	-8.70
	17,069.58
Nasdaq composite	-10.28
	4,562.29
Standard & Poor's 500	-3.07
	1,997.65
Russell 2000	-4.99
	1,167.21

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (Sept. 8)	\$1.3905
Dollar buys (Sept. 8)	€0.7516
British pound (Sept. 8)	\$1.68
Japanese yen (Sept. 8)	102.00
South Korean won (Sept. 11)	997.00

Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3771
British pound	\$1.6330/\$1.6124
Canada (dollar)	1.0891
China (Yuan)	6.1405
Denmark (Krone)	5.1404
Egypt (Pound)	7.1525
Euro	\$1.2972/\$1.7709
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7501
Hungary (Forint)	242.04
Israel (Shekel)	3.6028
Japan (Yen)	104.84
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2856
Lebanon (Pound)	6.2730
Philippines (Peso)	43.25
Poland (Zloty)	32.36
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7507
Singapore (Dollar)	1.2529
South Korea (Won)	1,024.03
Switzerland (Franc)	0.9299
Thailand (Baht)	32.200
Turkey (New Lira)	1.1572

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to the dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	4.75
Federal funds market rate	0.09
3-month bill	0.03
30-year bond	3.21

WEATHER OUTLOOK



The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

Saturday's US temperatures

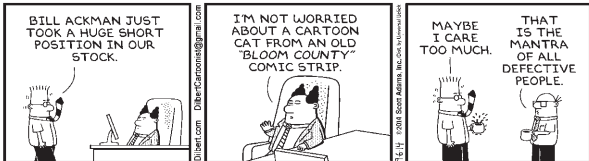
City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr
Ablene, Tex	87	70	Cldy	Chatanooga	87	69	Rain	Fort Wayne	74	63	Cldy	Louisville	81	73	Rain
Akron, Ohio	73	67	Rain	Chicago	68	45	Pcldy	Fresno	97	61	Cldy	Lubbock	75	64	Cldy
Albany, N.Y.	81	69	Rain	Cincinnati	78	70	Rain	Goodland	71	47	Cldy	Macon	92	70	Pcldy
Albuquerque	79	63	Cldy	Cleveland	72	68	Cldy	Grand Rapids	72	57	Pcldy	Medford	98	60	Cldy
Allentown, Pa.	85	68	Rain	Colorado Springs	68	47	Cldy	Great Falls	76	44	Cldy	Memphis	92	75	Rain
Anchorage	78	47	Cldy	Columbia, S.C.	92	72	Cldy	Green Bay	73	50	Cldy	Miami Beach	88	79	Rain
Ashville	82	63	Rain	Columbus, Ga.	92	73	Pcldy	Hartford	87	68	Rain	Midland-Odessa	84	69	Cldy
Atlanta	89	72	Pcldy	Concord, N.H.	84	69	Rain	Harrisburg	86	68	Rain	Milwaukee	72	60	Cldy
Atlantic City	88	72	Rain	Corpus Christi	91	77	Cldy	Helena	79	45	Cldy	Mpls-St Paul	74	51	Cldy
Austin	94	75	Pcldy	Dallas-Ft. Worth	94	78	Cldy	Honolulu	91	75	Cldy	Missoula	80	38	Cldy
Baltimore	91	71	Rain	Dayton	74	67	Rain	Houston	92	75	Cldy	Mobile	75	57	Pcldy
Baton Rouge	92	72	Cldy	Daytona Beach	91	74	Cldy	Huntsville	91	70	Rain	Montgomery	93	73	Pcldy
Bilings	78	47	Cldy	Denver	75	47	Cldy	Indianapolis	75	67	Cldy	Nashville	88	70	Rain
Birmingham	91	72	Pcldy	Des Moines	74	53	Cldy	Jacksonville	91	71	Cldy	New Orleans	91	76	Cldy
Bismarck	78	45	Cldy	Detroit	74	61	Cldy	Lansing	88	73	Rain	New York City	88	72	Rain
Boise	86	50	Cldy	Duluth	69	47	Cldy	Juneau	59	50	Rain	Newark	90	73	Rain
Boston	89	69	Rain	El Paso	81	71	Rain	Kansas City	74	56	Pcldy	Norfolk-Va.	91	73	Cldy
Bridgeport	79	67	Cldy	Evanston	81	64	Rain	Key West	90	83	Cldy	North Platte	73	43	Pcldy
Brownsville	92	77	Cldy	Erie	70	68	Rain	Knoxville	86	68	Rain	Oaklahoma City	77	66	Cldy
Buffalo	71	64	Cldy	Eugene	95	46	Cldy	Lake Charles	90	75	Rain	Omaha	72	49	Cldy
Burlington, Vt.	76	76	Cldy	Evansville	79	73	Cldy	Lakeview	100	79	Rain	Orlando	93	75	Rain
Caribou, Maine	73	66	Cldy	Fairbanks	56	34	Cldy	Las Vegas	100	79	Rain	Paderborn	82	72	Cldy
Charleston, S.C.	76	45	Pcldy	Fargo	76	48	Cldy	Lexington	81	71	Rain	Paducah	82	72	Cldy
Charleston, S.C.	89	73	Cldy	Flagstaff	76	49	Cldy	Lincoln	73	48	Cldy	San Antonio	88	72	Cldy
Charleston, W.Va.	84	70	Rain	Flint	72	56	Pcldy	Little Rock	87	73	Cldy	San Diego	80	70	Cldy
Charlotte, N.C.	88	71	Cldy	Fort Smith	86	73	Cldy	Los Angeles	87	67	Pcldy	San Francisco	76	60	Cldy
												Seattle	85	56	Cldy
												Shreveport	93	74	Cldy

National temperature extremes
Hi: Thu., 114, Death Valley, Calif.
Lo: Thu., 22, Stanley, Idaho

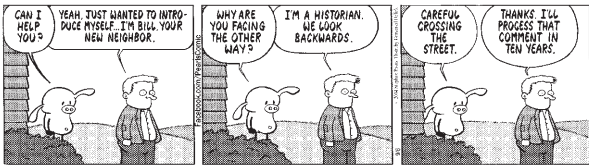
Frazz



Dilbert



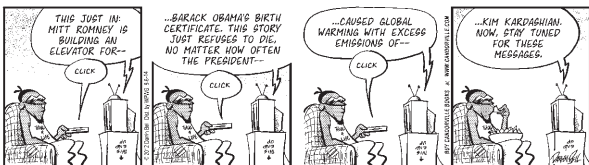
Pearls Before Swine



Non Sequitur



Candorville



Get Fuzzy



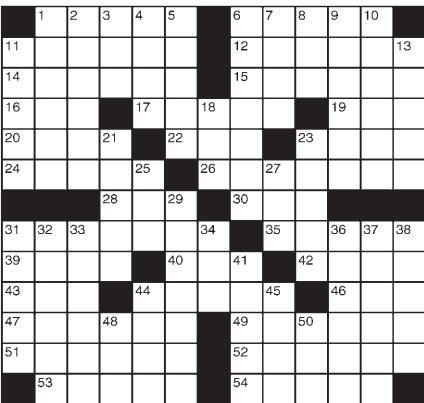
Doonesbury



Fort Knox



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



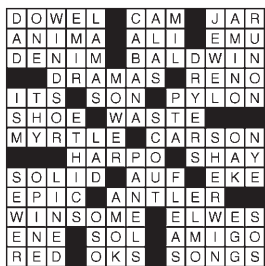
ACROSS

- 1 Burn with steam
- 6 No longer cangorous
- 11 Cultivating tool
- 12 Wall Street buys
- 14 "Seinfeld" role
- 15 Canal zone
- 16 PC linking system
- 17 Spritlike
- 19 Plead
- 20 Leave out
- 22 Sailor
- 23 Trig function
- 24 Wonder Woman accessory
- 26 Give up hope
- 28 Swiss mountain
- 30 Conk out
- 31 New parents' need
- 35 Take five
- 39 Mischievous tykes
- 40 Arctic seabird
- 42 Guy
- 43 Gorilla
- 44 "On the shore — seen ..."
- 46 Male swan
- 47 DEA agents
- 49 Tertiary Period epoch
- 51 Blame
- 52 Wryly funny
- 53 Floated down-stream, in a way
- 54 Salamanders

DOWN

- 1 Deli meat
- 2 Skulls
- 3 "Entourage" role
- 4 Unrivaled
- 5 Lived
- 6 Hoped
- 7 Compared to
- 8 Proscribe
- 9 Lawrence's place
- 10 Sanaa denizen
- 11 Slave of old Greece
- 13 More judicious
- 18 Craze
- 21 Weapons of mouse destruction
- 23 Race
- 25 Heady beverage
- 27 Round Table address
- 29 Commended
- 31 Mum of William and Harry
- 32 Affect
- 33 Insight
- 34 Total
- 36 Glowing with light
- 37 Handsome lad
- 38 Mediterranean sailing ship
- 41 Comedian Robert
- 44 Meds measure
- 45 Bygone times
- 48 Newsroom newbie
- 50 Intimide

Answer to Previous Puzzle



9-6

CRYPTOQUIP

UPM WUTYP OVUZO O IOJCROP-
OJCX RWXCJZACUJ'X TOJRUZX
JUIOWAYX: "XYWXYR OWM
XYWXRVRPRCB."

Yesterday's Cryptquip: WHEN FAMOUS PEOPLE RUN ABOUT DOING THINGS SWIFTLY, THAT'S DEFINITELY CELEBRITY CELERITY.

Today's Cryptquip Clue: U equals O

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US OPEN/SPORTS BRIEFS



CHARLES KRUPA/AP

Roger Federer celebrates his win over Gael Monfils during the quarterfinal round of the U.S. Open on Thursday in New York. Federer defeated Monfils 4-6, 3-6, 6-4, 7-5, 6-2.

Federer reaches semifinals

17-time major champ saves 2 match points to top Monfils

By HOWARD FENDRICH
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — This is what ran through Roger Federer's mind as he stood one point from losing to Gael Monfils in the U.S. Open quarterfinals:

"You got the back against the wall and hope to get a bit lucky. And you hope to play exactly the right shots that you need," Federer explained. "Or that he completely just messes it up. Either way works, as long as you get out of it."

Federer got out of it. Twice.

Steady as ever, even at 33, Federer saved two match points en route to coming all the way back from a two-set deficit, edging the 20th-seeded Monfils 4-6, 3-6, 6-4, 7-5, 6-2 on Thursday night to reach the semifinals at Flushing Meadows for the first time since 2011.

Frustrated by the Frenchman's unpredictable style, flummoxed by the swirling wind, and missing shots he normally makes, Federer was on the verge of defeat while trailing 5-4 in the fourth set.

The 17-time major champion's mind was racing. "That is a very frustrating moment to be in. Being down match point, it's just not fun, because you're so close to leaving the court, head hanging down and ... going to take a shower and going to have to do press and all that stuff, which is so annoying after you've lost," Federer said.

"It's hard to block it out, (but) you snap right back in, because you don't have that much time," he continued. "You're like, 'OK, let me try and hit a good serve. Let's hope it works, because I don't want to hit a second serve.' All that kind of stuff. ... I have to face it and embrace it."

That he did.

With Federer serving at 15-40, Monfils had an opening for a backhand passing shot, but it flew long. At 30-40, Federer produced a forehand winner, and the crowd roared. Two points later, it was 5-all, and then Monfils double-faulted twice in a row to get broken.

Everything had changed, putting Federer on course to winning for the ninth time after dropping the opening two sets of a match.

"It came quick," said Monfils, who said he felt physically and mentally drained late.

"It's a matter of five minutes," he said. "I think I was down (for) five minutes. Roger just (jumped) on me."



JOHN MINCHILLO/AP

Gael Monfils frustrated Roger Federer for much of their quarterfinal match on Thursday before the five-time US Open champion rallied from two sets down to defeat the 20th-seeded Frenchman.

Afterward, Federer credited the raucous support he heard in Arthur Ashe Stadium, saying the spectators "definitely got me through the match."

"It grows your belief that you can hit better shots, you can dig out more tough balls, you can serve better. All that just helps solidify your belief," Federer said. "I must say tonight was actually quite emotional for me."

Monfils, 28, was trying to reach his second career Grand Slam semifinal. Instead, Federer advanced to his 36th, ninth at Flushing Meadows. Five of Federer's major titles came at the U.S. Open from 2004-08, but he exited in the quarterfinals in 2012, and the fourth round in 2013.

On Saturday, the second-seeded Federer will play 14th-seeded Marin Cilic of Croatia. The other semifinal will be No. 1 Novak Djokovic against No. 10 Kei Nishikori.

Briefs

US tops Ukraine at World Cup

By BRIAN MAHONEY
The Associated Press

BILBAO, Spain — James Harden scored 17 points, Stephen Curry added 14 and the unbeaten U.S. national team wrapped up pool play with a 95-71 victory over Ukraine on Thursday at the Basketball World Cup.

Anthony Davis finished with 12 points for the Americans, who were never in any danger of losing in the second half after seizing control just before halftime against a methodical Ukraine team coached by former NBA coach Mike Fratello.

The only scare was a hard landing by starting guard Kyrie Irving with 1:12 left, but he eventually got off and walked off holding his lower back.

The Americans left later Thursday for the next round, held in the city where the famed U.S. Dream Team won gold in the 1992 Olympics.

In other basketball news:

■ Golden State Warriors general manager Bob Myers has agreed to a three-year extension that will keep him under contract through the 2017-18 season.

Myers has been Golden State's general manager since April 2012 and has been a key cog in the franchise's turnaround. The Warriors have reached the playoffs the past two seasons, and Myers has helped assemble a talented young nucleus around All-Star point guard Stephen Curry.

Diamondbacks fire GM Kevin Towers

PHOENIX — The Arizona Diamondbacks have fired general manager Kevin Towers in the midst of a third straight disappointing season.

Towers became Arizona's general manager in 2010 and put together a roster that won 94 games and the NL West in 2011.

The Diamondbacks have backpedaled since then, finishing .500 the past two seasons and struggling this year despite having the highest payroll in franchise history.

Plagued by injuries, Arizona lost 22 of its first 30 games and was 59-81 through Thursday's games.

Towers' firing comes four months after the Diamondbacks hired Hall of Fame manager Tony La Russa as chief operating officer.

NCAA: Call to Little League star broke rule

STORRS, Conn. — The NCAA has determined that Connecticut women's basketball coach Geno Auriemma committed a secondary rules violation when he made a phone call congratulating Little League pitching star Mo'Ne Davis last month.



ALVARO BARRIENTOS/AP

Derrick Rose drives to the basket during the United States' Group C Basketball World Cup match against Ukraine in Bilbao, northern Spain, on Thursday.

Athletic director Wade Munn said Thursday that UConn accepts the decision but does not agree with it.

Manuel says before Auriemma called Davis during the Little League World Series, he checked with UConn's compliance department and was told the call was permissible. The department thought the 13-year-old wouldn't be considered a prospective student athlete by the NCAA and school says the call was not "recreating in nature."

The school says it's unsure if the NCAA will impose any sanctions.

Bruins sign C Krejci to 6-year extension

BOSTON — The Boston Bruins signed center David Krejci to a six-year, \$43.5 million contract extension Thursday.

The deal begins in the 2015-16 season after the final season of his current contract.

Krejci led the Bruins last season with 50 assists and 69 points. He also led the NHL with a 39 plus-minus rating. In eight NHL seasons, all with the Bruins, he has 110 goals, 268 assists and 378 points in 504 regular-season games.

■ The Colorado Avalanche signed Tyson Barrie to a two-year deal after a breakout season by the defenseman.

Barrie gave the Avalanche an offensive presence at the blue line as he led the defensemen with 13 goals.

With three overtime goals last season, Barrie tied Colorado's single-season record set by David Jones in 2010-11.

MB SCOREBOARD

American League

East Division					Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB		W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	82	57	.590		Kansas City	63	558	—	
New York	72	66	.522	9½	Detroit	77	63	.550	1
Tampa Bay	72	67	.518	10	Cleveland	71	67	.514	1½
Seattle	67	74	.475	16	Chicago	63	76	.453	14½
Boston	61	79	.438	21½	Minnesota	59	79	.436	17
West Division					National League				
	W	L	Pct	GB		W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	84	55	.604	—	St. Louis	67	63	.515	—
Oakland	69	60	.538	5	Atlanta	73	67	.521	7
Seattle	76	63	.547	8	New York	66	74	.471	14
Houston	61	79	.436	23½	Philadelphia	64	75	.460	15½
Texas	53	87	.379	31½	East Division				

National League

East Division					Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB		W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	73	67	.521	7	St. Louis	67	63	.515	—
Atlanta	73	67	.521	7	Atlanta	73	67	.521	7
New York	66	74	.471	14	New York	66	74	.471	14
Philadelphia	64	75	.460	15½	Philadelphia	64	75	.460	15½
West Division					Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB		W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	78	62	.557	—	St. Louis	67	63	.515	—
San Francisco	76	64	.543	2	Atlanta	73	67	.521	7
San Diego	68	72	.486	10	New York	66	74	.471	14
Arizona	59	81	.421	19	Philadelphia	64	75	.460	15½
Colorado	47	84	.400	22	West Division				

Wednesday's games

Seattle 2, Oakland 1	
N.Y. Yankees 5, Boston 1	
Cleveland 7, Detroit 0	
Toronto 7, Tampa Bay 4	
Minnesota 11, Chicago White Sox 4	
Los Angeles 1, L.A. Angels 1	
Kansas City 4, Texas 1	
Atlanta 1, Pittsburgh 0	
St. Louis 1, Pittsburgh 0	
Colorado 9, San Francisco 2	
Washington 8, L.A. Dodgers 5, 14 innings	

Thursday's games

N.Y. Yankees 5, Boston 1	
Detroit 11, Cleveland 4, 11 innings	
Toronto 7, Tampa Bay 4, 10 innings	
Seattle 10, Texas 2	
Los Angeles 5, Minnesota 4	
Baltimore 9, Cincinnati 7	
St. Louis 3, Milwaukee 2	
Arizona 5, San Diego 1	

Friday's games

Chicago White Sox 4, Cleveland 1	
Kansas City 4, N.Y. Yankees 1	
Arizona 5, San Diego 1	
Tampa Bay 4, Toronto 1	
Seattle 4, Texas 1	
A. Angels at Minnesota	
Houston at Oakland	
Pittsburgh at Chicago Cubs	
Philadelphia at Washington	
Atlanta at Cincinnati	
St. Louis at Detroit	
N.Y. Mets at Tampa Bay	

Saturday's games

Baltimore 7, Oakland 1	
Seattle 10, Texas 2	
Los Angeles 5, Minnesota 4	
Baltimore 9, Cincinnati 7	
St. Louis 3, Milwaukee 2	
Arizona 5, San Diego 1	
Tampa Bay 4, Toronto 1	
Seattle 4, Texas 1	
A. Angels at Minnesota	
Houston at Oakland	
Pittsburgh at Chicago Cubs	
Philadelphia at Washington	
Atlanta at Cincinnati	
St. Louis at Detroit	
N.Y. Mets at Tampa Bay	

Sunday's games

Baltimore 7, Oakland 1	
Seattle 10, Texas 2	
Los Angeles 5, Minnesota 4	
Baltimore 9, Cincinnati 7	
St. Louis 3, Milwaukee 2	
Arizona 5, San Diego 1	
Tampa Bay 4, Toronto 1	
Seattle 4, Texas 1	
A. Angels at Minnesota	
Houston at Oakland	
Pittsburgh at Chicago Cubs	
Philadelphia at Washington	
Atlanta at Cincinnati	
St. Louis at Detroit	
N.Y. Mets at Tampa Bay	

Monday's games

Baltimore 7, Oakland 1	
Seattle 10, Texas 2	
Los Angeles 5, Minnesota 4	
Baltimore 9, Cincinnati 7	
St. Louis 3, Milwaukee 2	
Arizona 5, San Diego 1	
Tampa Bay 4, Toronto 1	
Seattle 4, Texas 1	
A. Angels at Minnesota	
Houston at Oakland	
Pittsburgh at Chicago Cubs	
Philadelphia at Washington	
Atlanta at Cincinnati	
St. Louis at Detroit	
N.Y. Mets at Tampa Bay	

Tuesday's games

Baltimore 7, Oakland 1	
Seattle 10, Texas 2	
Los Angeles 5, Minnesota 4	
Baltimore 9, Cincinnati 7	
St. Louis 3, Milwaukee 2	
Arizona 5, San Diego 1	
Tampa Bay 4, Toronto 1	
Seattle 4, Texas 1	
A. Angels at Minnesota	
Houston at Oakland	
Pittsburgh at Chicago Cubs	
Philadelphia at Washington	
Atlanta at Cincinnati	
St. Louis at Detroit	
N.Y. Mets at Tampa Bay	

Wednesday's games

Baltimore 7, Oakland 1	
Seattle 10, Texas 2	
Los Angeles 5, Minnesota 4	
Baltimore 9, Cincinnati 7	
St. Louis 3, Milwaukee 2	
Arizona 5, San Diego 1	
Tampa Bay 4, Toronto 1	
Seattle 4, Texas 1	
A. Angels at Minnesota	
Houston at Oakland	
Pittsburgh at Chicago Cubs	
Philadelphia at Washington	
Atlanta at Cincinnati	
St. Louis at Detroit	
N.Y. Mets at Tampa Bay	



STEVE NISUS/AP

The Blue Jays' Ryan Goins, left, reaches to tag out the Rays' Wil Myers, who slides into second base during the sixth inning of Thursday's game in St. Petersburg, Fla. Myers was trying to stretch a single.

Yankees 5, Red Sox 4

Boston					New York				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
B.Holtz 2b	5	1	1	1	Elsbury cf	3	1	0	0
Belts 1b	4	1	1	1	Seaver ss	4	1	1	1
D.Oritz dh	4	2	2	3	Gallagher lf	4	0	1	0
Cedeno lf	4	0	0	0	Beltrán dh	4	0	1	1
Napoli 3b	4	0	0	0	Teixeira 1b	4	0	1	0
Craig rf	2	0	0	0	McMinn c	4	0	1	0
J.Wells pr	3	0	0	0	Headly 3b	3	0	0	0
Bogart ss	3	0	0	0	Drew 2b	3	0	0	0
Malik 3b	3	0	0	0	Wendt 2b	3	0	0	0
Nava phr	1	0	0	0	Reichs jr	0	0	0	0
Vazquez c	4	0	0	0	Bryan 2b	4	0	0	0
Totals	34	4	4	4	Suzuki 1b	2	0	0	0

New York	003 000
One out when winning run scored.	
E—Warren (2). DP—Boston 1. LOB—Boston 6, New York 4. 2B—Vazquez (6), Jeter (15), Gardner (21). HR—B.Holtz (4), D.Oritz 2 (32), Teixeira (21), Headley (4). S—Bogart.	

	IP	H	R	ER
Boston				
Workman	6	5	3	3
Layne H,5	1	0	0	0
Tazawa H,15	1	0	0	0
Uehara L,6-5 BS,5-31	½	2	2	2
New York				
Capuano	4½	6	4	4
R.Hill	½	0	0	0
E.Rogers	1½	1	0	0
Outman	¾	0	0	0
Kelley	1½	0	0	0
Warren W,3-5	1	0	0	0
HBP — by Warren (Craig). T — 3: 44.708 (49.642)				

MLB

Teixeira, Headley lift Yankees over Red Sox

Boston's Uehara gives up pair of 9th-inning home runs as New York rallies to victory

By RONALD BLUM
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Chase Headley remembered watching the New York Yankees as a kid and then as a competitor.

"You expected the magic moment, the big hit, the guy to get out of the jam," he said. "You just kind of learn to expect it." On Thursday night, he combined with Mark Teixeira to deliver one of those indelible instants, one that gave the Yankees a little more belief that they can put together a spurt and return to the playoffs after a one-year absence.

Teixeira hit a tying home run off Koji Uehara leading off the ninth inning and Headley homered with one out, lifting New York to stunning 5-4 victory over the Boston Red Sox.

"Two home runs in the ninth — it used to happen a lot more," Teixeira said. "It's a huge win. You feel like you kind of stole one."

David Ortiz homered twice off Chris Capuano as the Red Sox built a 3-0 lead in the first three innings. After Derek Jeter hit a two-run double and scored on Carlos Beltran's single in the bottom of the third, Brock Holt put Boston ahead 4-3 with a fifth-inning homer.

Rich Hill, Esnil Rogers, Josh Outman, Shawn Kelley and Adam Warren (3-5) combined for 4½ innings of one-hit relief,

keeping the Yankees within one run.

New York had just one hit since the third before Teixeira fouled off a 2-2 pitch, then drove a hanging splitter into the second deck in right field for his 21st home run this season, his first since Aug. 17.

"I've been pretty bad the last few weeks," said Teixeira, who started the game in a 6-for-44 (136) slide.

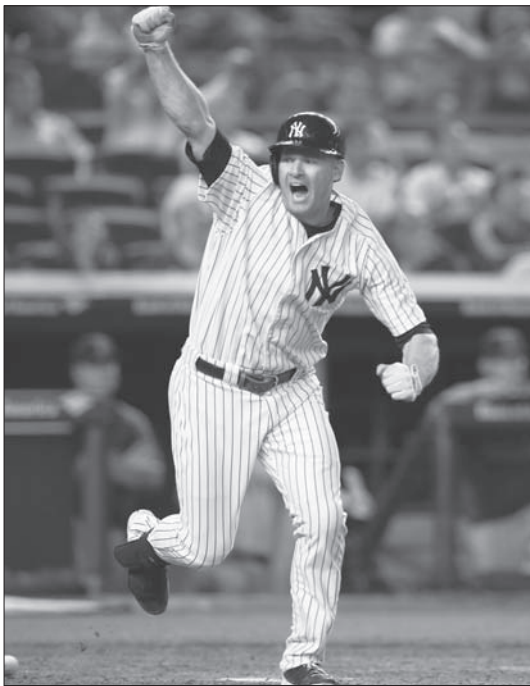
After Brian McCann flied out, Headley worked the count to 3-2 and sent another splitter from Uehara (6-5) deep into the right-field bleachers. Headley threw his helmet as he approached home plate, where he was met by his leaping teammates and doused with an orange bucket of Gatorade by Brett Gardner as he crossed.

It was Headley's second-game winning hit since the Yankees acquired him from San Diego on July 22. On the night he arrived, his 14th-inning single gave New York a 2-1 victory over Texas.

"A little bit different," Headley said, smiling. "I actually knew everybody's name this time."

New York, which remained four games out of the second AL wild-card spot with 24 games left, is in danger of missing consecutive postseasons for the first time since 1992 and '93.

"It's a great win, and we needed it," manager Joe Girardi said. "And we're going to need a lot more."



KATHY WILLENS/AP

The Yankees' Chase Headley celebrates his walk-off home run off Boston Red Sox relief pitcher Koji Uehara in the ninth inning of Thursday's game at Yankee Stadium in New York. The Yankees defeated the Red Sox 5-4.

Roundup

Cards hold off slumping Brewers, win sixth straight

The Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — Marco Gonzales and his fellow St. Louis relievers worked out of several jams in combining for six innings of one-run ball, and the Cardinals held off slumping Milwaukee 3-2 for their sixth straight win.

The Cardinals moved to a season-high 14 games above .500 and extended their lead to four games in the NL Central over the Brewers, who lost their ninth straight.

St. Louis used the bullpen early after Michael Wacha was limited to three innings in his first start off the disabled list. Gonzales (2-2) went 2½ innings for the win.

The Brewers stranded potential tying runs in scoring position from the sixth through the ninth.

St. Louis never trailed after Yadier Molina's two-run single in the first of Willy Peralta (15-10).

Blue Jays 1, Rays 0 (10): Pinch-hitter Colby Rasmus homered in the 10th inning and Toronto earned its first three-game sweep at Tampa Bay.

Rasmus led off with a long drive into the right-field seats against Steve Geltz (0-1).

Tampa Bay threatened in the



MORRY GASH/AP

Milwaukee's Gerardo Parra reacts after striking out during the ninth inning of Thursday's game in Milwaukee. The Cardinals won 3-2.

ninth and loaded the bases loaded with one out. But reliever Brett Cecil (2-3) worked out of the jam by striking out three in the inning. Casey Janssen got three outs for his 21st save.

Toronto won the first two games of the series to stop a streak of 22 consecutive winless road series (including one in Orlando) against the Rays dating to April 6-8, 2007.

Orioles 9, Reds 7: J.J. Hardy snapped a seventh-inning tie with a two-run single, and Baltimore gave away a six-run lead before rebounding to beat Cincinnati for a three-game sweep.

After completing a 9-2 home-stand, the AL East-leading Orioles (82-57) are assured a third straight winning season for the first time since 1992-94.

Nelson Cruz hit his major league-leading 37th home run in a six-run first, but the Reds chipped away and finally pulled even with a four-run seventh. Baltimore rookie Jonathan Schoop homered for the third straight game.

Tigers 11, Indians 4 (11): Eugenio Suarez's two-run single and Victor Martinez's three-run homer highlighted a seven-run 11th inning that lifted visiting Detroit over Cleveland.

Detroit scored four runs in the first and then was shut down for the next nine innings. The Tigers sent 10 batters to the plate in the first and 11 in the final inning.

Cleveland chipped away against Cy Young Award winner Max Scherzer and tied the score against the Tigers' bullpen in the seventh.

Phil Coke (4-2) pitched 1½ innings for the win.

Mariners 10, Rangers 2: Robinson Cano drove in four runs for the first time with his current team, and wild card-contending Seattle jumped out to a big early lead on the way to an easy victory over host Texas.

Rookie left-hander Roenis Elias (10-12) allowed a run in five innings to become the fourth Seattle starter with at least 10 wins.

Angels 5, Twins 4: Pinch-hitter Chris Iannetta's sacrifice fly in the ninth inning lifted visiting Los Angeles over Minnesota.

David Freese broke out of an 0-for-21 slump with two doubles and an RBI, and Howie Kendrick and Erick Aybar each had two hits and an RBI to help the Angels bounce back from a two-game sweep in Houston.

Diamondbacks 5, Padres 1: Randall Delgado and four relievers combined on a four-hitter, and A.J. Pollock had three hits to help Arizona beat host San Diego.

The Diamondbacks won the final two of a four-game series in which they outscored the Padres 11-2.

AUTO RACING



DALE DAVIS/AP

In his first event since his sprint car struck and killed a fellow driver, Tony Stewart slammed the wall twice and settled for a dismal 41st-place finish at Atlanta Motor Speedway on Sunday, leaving him in a must-win situation this week at Richmond to make NASCAR's Chase for the Sprint Cup championship.

Chase or no Chase, Stewart must find a way to move on

TCHARLOTTE, N.C. Only Stewart has one final shot to make the Chase, and it's not a very good one: He must win Saturday night at Richmond, where he last visited Victory Lane in 2002.

He sat out three races after his sprint car struck and killed Kevin Ward Jr. at a New York dirt track on Aug. 9, and his return to competition Sunday night at Atlanta Motor Speedway ended with a blown tire and a 41st-place finish.

Now the three-time NASCAR champion has to win at Richmond or he won't be eligible to race this season for a fourth title.

But does it really matter if Stewart makes the 16-driver field? Not in the least.

Stewart's team and his employees and his sponsors would be thrilled if Stewart pulled it off, and it sure felt as if the crowd was pulling for him given his reception as he walked across the stage during driver introductions. Stewart received a rousing ovation that was far louder than for any other driver, even the wildly popular Dale Earnhardt Jr.

So when his tire blew and he hit the wall, ending his night just past the halfway point, there was

heavy sadness in his voice as he radioed his crew.

"Sorry, guys," he said. "You deserve better than this."

Only the finish wasn't that important in the grand scheme of life, which Stewart is beginning to understand in the aftermath of Ward's death.

Returning to the track was imperative for Stewart, who had spent nearly three weeks in seclusion. Many of his peers tried and failed to comfort him; Stewart simply wasn't ready to talk or text or let anyone into his world of constant sorrow.

"I've wanted to talk to him for weeks," Atlanta winner Kasey Kahne said. "I think a lot of people have, and haven't been able to."

Kahne finally got his chance Friday after Stewart returned to the track, made his first public statement since Ward's death and then finally headed to his home-away-from-home in the NASCAR motorhome lot. Kahne was waiting.

"I was able to go in there and see him for the first time and give him a hug," Kahne said. "And it just felt really good to talk to him for 10 minutes."

Those friendships and support are what Stewart needs most right now. He needs normalcy and routine and the distraction of pulling on his helmet and climbing in a car. The investigation into Ward's death will last at least another two weeks, and criminal

charges are still possible. So it's foolish to think one weekend at the track did anything to make his problems go away.

Many will always scrutinize the timing of Stewart's return. He came back with two races remaining in the "regular season" and after Stewart-Haas Racing had successfully petitioned NASCAR for a waiver that would allow him into the Chase should he qualify.

A focused driver in a fast car with two chances to gain that important berth? Sure, the motives behind his return will seem questionable to some.

But many outside the celebrity world are touched by tragedy daily, and few get to simply shut down and grieve indefinitely. There are jobs, children, responsibilities and lives that go on. When something terrible happens, eventually it's time to return to work.

That's all Stewart did last weekend.

There was never going to be a "right" time for Stewart, but it was inevitable he'd be back. Racing is his job, his hobby. The race track is his home. The longer he stayed away, the longer the delay in the healing process.

It's not important if Stewart makes the Chase, it's just not. Moving forward and trying his best to pick up the pieces is all that matters now, and that made Sunday's race something of a small victory.

Around the tracks

NASCAR SPRINT CUP

This week: Federated Auto Parts 400 at Richmond, Va.

Track: Richmond International Raceway (oval, 0.75 miles).

Distance: 300 miles, 400 laps.

TV: AFN-Xtra, 1:30 a.m. Sunday Central European Time.

Last year: Carl Edwards won the regular-season finale, taking the lead after Michael Waltrip Racing's Clint Bowyer spun to force a caution period.

Last week: Kasey Kahne won at Atlanta to wrap up a Chase position with his first victory of the season. Matt Kenseth was second to clinch a Chase spot through the season standings.

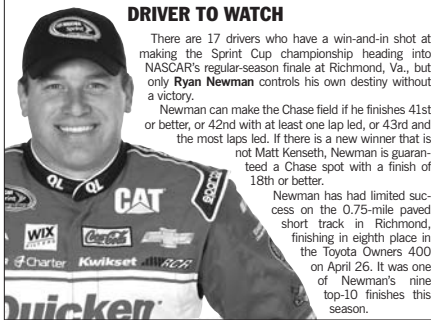
Next race: MyAfrStory.com 400, Sept. 14, Chicagoland Speedway, Joliet, Ill.

Online: nascar.com

POINTS STANDINGS

1. Jeff Gordon	872
2. Dale Earnhardt Jr.	851
3. Matt Kenseth	794
4. Joey Logano	791
5. Brad Keselowski	782
6. Jimmie Johnson	766
7. Carl Edwards	755
8. Kevin Harvick	748
9. Ryan Newman	747
10. Greg Biffle	728
11. Kasey Kahne	708
12. Clint Bowyer	705
13. Kyle Larson	704
14. Paul Menard	675
15. Austin Dillon	674
16. Jamie McMurray	666
17. Kyle Busch	657
18. Brian Vickers	650
19. Denny Hamlin	636
20. Marcos Ambrose	628

DRIVER TO WATCH



There are 17 drivers who have a win-and-in shot at making the Sprint Cup championship heading into NASCAR's regular-season finale at Richmond, Va., but only **Ryan Newman** controls his own destiny without a victory.

Newman can make the Chase field if he finishes 41st or better, or 42nd with at least one lap led, or 43rd and the most laps led. If there is a new winner that is not Matt Kenseth, Newman is guaranteed a Chase spot with a finish of 18th or better.

Newman has had limited success on the 0.75-mile paved short track in Richmond, finishing in eighth place in the Toyota Owners 400 on April 26. It was one of Newman's nine top-10 finishes this season.

NATIONWIDE SERIES

This week: Virginia 529 College Savings 250 at Richmond, Va.

Track: Richmond International Raceway (oval, 0.75 miles).

Track distance: 187.5 miles, 250 laps.

TV: AFN-Xtra, 1:30 a.m. Saturday Central European Time.

Last year: Brad Keselowski raced to the fifth of his seven 2013 victories.

Last week: Kevin Harvick won at Atlanta for his third series win of the season and 43rd overall. He led the first 159 laps.

Next race: Jimmy John's Freaky Fast 300, Sept. 13, Chicagoland Speedway, Joliet, Ill.

Online: nascar.com

FORMULA ONE

This week: Italian Grand Prix at Monza, Italy.

Track: Autodromo Nazionale di Monza (road course, 3.6 miles).

Track distance: 190.8 miles, 53 laps.

Last year: Red Bull's Sebastian Vettel raced to the sixth of his 13 2013 victories en route to his fourth straight season title. He's winless this season.

Last race: Red Bull's Daniel Ricciardo won the Belgian Grand Prix on Aug. 24 for his third victory of the season. Mercedes' Nico Rosberg was second to increase his season lead.

Next race: Singapore Grand Prix, Sept. 21, Marina Bay Street Circuit, Singapore.

Online: formula1.com

CAMPING WORLD TRUCK SERIES

Next race: Lucas Oil 225, Sept. 12, Chicagoland Speedway, Joliet, Ill.

Last week: Ryan Blaney won the road race in Bowmanville, Ontario, for his first victory of the season. He passed German奎罗ga on the final turn.

Online: nascar.com

NHRA MELLO YELLO DRAG RACING

Next event: NHRA Carolina Nationals, Sept. 12-14, zMAX Dragway, Concord, N.C.

Last week: Alexis DeJoria beat John Force in the U.S. Nationals in Clermont, Ind. Richie Crumpton won the Top Fuel final. Shane Gray topped the Pro Stock field and Eddie Krawiec won in Pro Stock Motorcycle. In the rain-delayed Brainerd, Minn., finals, Ron Capps won in Funny Car and Jason Line topped the Pro Stock field.

Online: www.nhra.com

OTHER RACES

U.S. AUTO RACING CLUB: Silver Crown: Tony Bettenhausen 100, Sunday, Ill. State Fairgrounds, Springfield, Ill.

Online: usacracing.com
WORLD OF OUTLAWS: Sprint Car: Friday-Saturday, Silver Dollar Speedway, Chico, Calif.; Sunday, Antioch Speedway, Antioch, Calif. Super DirtCar: Saturday, Outlawz Grabsby, Grabsby, Quebec.

Online: worldofoutlaws.com

— The Associated Press

In the Pits



by JENNA FRYER • AP

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Lawyer: FSU QB Winston under investigation

The Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — An attorney said Florida State is investigating the sexual assault case involving Jameis Winston in an effort to determine if the Seminoles quarterback violated the student code of conduct policy.

Baine Kerr, one of the attorneys for the woman who said Winston sexually assaulted her, said Thursday the university interviewed his client "early last month." He said "an investigation is ongoing."

Florida State Attorney Willie Meggs did not bring charges against Winston in the case, saying last December that there was not enough evidence to win a conviction against him.

The university would not confirm the investigation but said in a release, "While we cannot comment on any individual case, in general, complainants control the timing in our process."

Kerr disagreed with the implication that the interview occurred recently because of actions by his client, saying that the woman has been asking "Florida State to comply with federal law and expeditiously investigate and resolve her complaints."

"I take issue with that statement as it applies to this particular complaint," Kerr said. "She's definitely been asking that this go forward. The timing has not been controlled by her or by us, however. We have for months said that she was willing to be formally interviewed as part of the disciplinary process and made her available."

"She has not been controlling the timing and she has consistently been asking for the investigation to be conducted as promptly as possible."

The university is currently being investigated by the Department of Education Office for Civil Rights for possible Title IX violations after the woman filed a complaint. Florida State announced an initiative aimed at the prevention of sexual violence on Wednesday.

Kerr said the woman was interviewed by a formal Title IX investigator from the Florida State Office of Student Rights & Responsibilities.

"We expect that there will be charges filed and see no reason at this point for delaying those," Kerr said.

Attorney David Cornwell, an adviser to Winston's family, had a different perspective.

"The real story here is that after her Colorado attorneys created a media frenzy alleging that Florida State University failed to comply with its Title IX obligations, (the woman) had to come clean and admit that she previously refused to cooperate with the university's Title IX inquiry," Cornwell said in a statement.

"Now that she has finally done her Title IX interview, this is the fourth time (the woman) has told her story. We anticipate the same conclusion that followed her previous three statements to the Tallahassee Police Department, Florida's State Attorney's Office and in the FSU Code of Student Conduct hearing. Jameis Winston did not sexually assault" the woman.

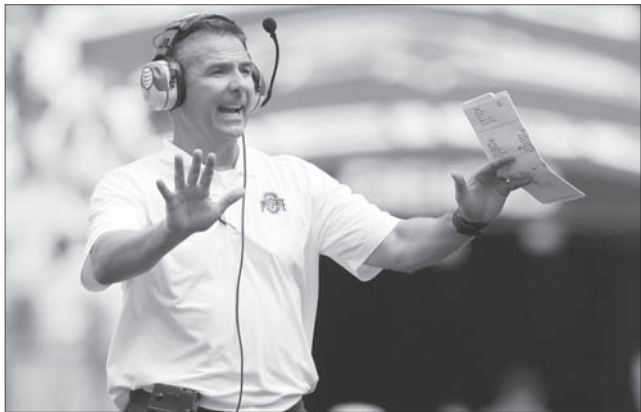
Winston is expected to play Saturday against The Citadel.

"This team just moves on," coach Jimbo Fisher said after Thursday's practice. "I have no idea how that'll go or what it's about. That's for other people to find out. We're just here playing ball."



Tony Gutierrez/AP

Florida State's Jameis Winston is reportedly under investigation by the school in an effort to determine if the Heisman-winning quarterback violated the student code of conduct policy as a result of the sexual assault case brought against him last year.



PATRICK SEMANSKY/AP

When Ohio State head coach Urban Meyer began his career at Notre Dame as a special teams coach under then-coach Bob Davie, he sought out Virginia Tech head coach Frank Beamer for advice. The two formed a lasting friendship, but will be on opposite sides of the field Saturday when Meyer's Buckeyes host Beamer's Hokies in Columbus, Ohio.

Five things to know

Old friends to face off

Buckeyes' Meyer, Hokies' Beamer have history

BY STEVE MEGARGEY
The Associated Press

The start of conference play in the Big 12 and Pac-12, the last Michigan-Notre Dame game for the foreseeable future and a couple of intriguing intersectional matchups highlight the second week of the college football season.

Here are five things to know before the second weekend kicks off.

1 Coaching BFFs: There is almost no one in the coaching profession respected more than Virginia Tech's Frank Beamer, now in his 28th season. With two national championships under his belt, there are few coaches in America better known than Ohio State's Urban Meyer.

When the eighth-ranked Buckeyes meet Virginia Tech on Saturday — for the first time ever — it'll be a matchup of friends with a lot riding on the outcome.

When Meyer first started coaching under Bob Davie at Notre Dame and was put in charge of special teams, he sought out the best in the business — the Hokies coach, and proponent of "Beamerball."

"He was the guy who just started storming the castle, blocking punts," Meyer said. "They were just really aggressive."

Meyer and Beamer became fast friends. Their wives, Cheryl Beamer and Shelley Meyer, became best friends. After practice Wednesday, Meyer chuckled when he got a text message from

Did you know

Virginia Tech's Frank Beamer is in his 28th season as Hokies head coach.

SOURCE: The Associated Press

Cheryl. "His reputation follows him. He's a very knowledgeable coach, very good overall," Beamer said of Meyer. "You're talking about a program that has great players, but they're well-coached. You say that most times, but they really are a well-, well-coached football team."

2 Spartans head west again: Eight months after beating Stanford in the Rose Bowl, No. 7 Michigan State heads back to the West Coast to face No. 3 Oregon in an intriguing matchup between the Ducks' high-flying offense and the Spartans' punishing defense.

Oregon tied for third among all Football Bowl Subdivision teams last year in scoring (45.5). Michigan State ranked third in scoring defense (13.2).

"They're coming in as one of the best defenses in the country, and any offense would love to face that challenge," Oregon quarterback Marcus Mariota said. "It helps you see where you stack up."

3 Michigan-Notre Dame finale?: Saturday's Michigan-Notre Dame game marks the last scheduled meeting between these two storied programs as No. 16 Notre Dame begins its commitment of playing five Atlantic Coast Conference opponents per year.

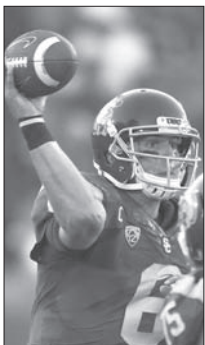
Michigan has a 24-16-1 record in the series, which began in 1887 and has had a number of breaks along the way. The only other schools that own a winning record against Notre Dame and have faced the Irish at least five times are Florida State, Ohio State and Nebraska.

4 Early Pac-12 showdown: The opening of league competition in the Pac-12 features a potential conference championship game preview as No. 13 Stanford puts its 17-game home winning streak on the line against No. 14 Southern California. USC beat Stanford 20-17 last year to end a four-game losing streak in this series.

The Big 12 also begins league play Saturday as Iowa State hosts No. 20 Kansas State.

5 Odds and ends: One week after surprising Vanderbilt 37-7, Temple can match its 2013 victory total by beating Navy. Temple forced seven turnovers in its season opener after managing just 13 takeaways all of last season. ... Richmond quarterback Mike Rocco, a Virginia transfer, faces his former team Saturday.

College GameDay



MARK J. TERRILL/AP

Player to watch

Cody Kessler QB | Southern Cal

Kessler had some shaky moments last season before coming on strong late in the year. Kessler picked up new coach Steve Sarkisian's offense quickly and had a fantastic start to his junior year by guiding the Trojans to one touchdown after another in a rout over Fresno State. First game: 394 yards, four TDs in 52-13 win over Fresno State. Next up: at No. 13 Stanford.

No. 14 Southern Cal at No. 13 Stanford, 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Central European Time



RYAN KANG/AP

Oregon quarterback Marcus Mariota, left, hands off to running back Thomas Tyner in last week's 62-13 win against South Dakota. This week, the No. 3 Ducks face a bigger challenge in No. 7 Michigan State. Oregon showed glimpses in the season opener of the "three-headed monster" option of running backs Tyner, Byron Marshall, and Royce Freeman. Together the three accounted for 412 yards of offense and four touchdowns last week. The Spartans finished second in the country last year in overall defense, and Oregon's quick offense will put Michigan State to the test on Saturday in Eugene, Ore.

THE POWER CONFERENCES

ACC			
Atlantic Division			
	Conf.	W	All
	W	L	
Louisville	0	0	1
Syracuse	0	0	1
Boston College	0	0	1
N.C. State	0	0	1
Florida State	0	0	1
Clemson	0	0	1
Wake Forest	0	0	1
Coastal Division			
	Conf.	W	All
	W	L	
Georgia Tech.	0	0	1
Pittsburgh	0	0	1
Duke	0	0	1
North Carolina	0	0	1
Virginia Tech.	0	0	1
Virginia	0	0	1
Miami	0	0	1

Game of the week: Virginia Tech at Ohio State. This matchup of marquee programs is the best on a light ACC schedule that includes six games against FCS opponents. A Hokies defense that held William & Mary to nine points and 76 yards rushing will look to rattle Ohio State redshirt freshman J.T. Barrett, who will make his first home start in place of Braxton Miller. **Inside the numbers:** Three transfers started last week, and all put up big numbers in their debuts with their schools. North Carolina State's Jacoby Brissett (319 total yards), Boston College's Tyler Murphy (291) and Virginia Tech's Michael Brewer (272) each led their teams to wins.

Player to watch: Thomas Sirk. Overlooked in Duke's season-opening rout of Elon was the new short-yardage specialist who rushed for two late touchdowns and looked impressive in the Blue Devils' fourth-and-short packages.

Big Ten			
East			
	Conf.	W	All
	W	L	
Michigan St.	0	0	1
Indiana	0	0	1
Maryland	0	0	1
Michigan	0	0	1
Ohio State	0	0	1
X-Penn State	0	0	1
Rutgers	0	0	1
West			
	Conf.	W	All
	W	L	
Illinois	0	0	1
Iowa	0	0	1
Minnesota	0	0	1
Nebraska	0	0	1
Purdue	0	0	1
Northwestern	0	0	1
Wisconsin	0	0	1

Game of the week: No. 7 Michigan State at No. 3 Oregon, Saturday. The Spartans are coming off a Rose Bowl victory, but in some ways a win in raucous Autzen Stadium may grab even more attention. The high-flying Ducks will test the Spartans' stingy defense like no other opponent they face this season. Last year, Oregon was second in total offense and fourth in scoring offense.

Inside the numbers: Nebraska racked up 784 yards of offense against Florida Atlantic in the season opener, the most by a Big Ten school in a game since Minnesota had 832 yard back in 1905.

Player to watch: Michigan State QB Connor Cook. The Spartans defense gets all the attention, but Cook has quietly emerged as a dependable playmaker. He was almost perfect in the season-opener against Jacksonville State, completing 12 of 13 passes for 285 yards and three TDs.

Big 12			
	Conf.	W	All
	W	L	
Kansas	0	0	0
Baylor	0	0	1
Kansas State	0	0	1
Oklahoma	0	0	1
TCU	0	0	1
Texas Tech.	0	0	1
Texas	0	0	1
West Virginia	0	0	1
Oklahoma State	0	0	1
Iowa State	0	0	1

Game of the week: No. 20 Kansas State at Iowa State. The season's first game that counts in the conference standings. Iowa State opened with a 34-14 loss to North Dakota State, the FCS champion that also beat Kansas State in the 2013 season opener. K-State is playing its earliest league opener since being in the very first Big 12 game the opening week of the 1996 season. The last time Iowa State played a Big 12 game so early was the second game in 2002, also its last win in a conference opener.

Inside the numbers: Texas Tech QB Davis Webb completed 39 of 52 passes for 452 yards with four TDs in a tougher-than-expected 42-35 win over Central Arkansas.

Player to watch: Baylor defensive line. The defensive front accounted for seven of the Bears' school record-tying nine sacks in the season-opening 45-0 win over SMU, which was held to only 67 total yards on 64 plays.

Pac-12			
North			
	Conf.	W	All
	W	L	
California	0	0	1
Oregon	0	0	1
Oregon State	0	0	1
Stanford	0	0	1
Washington	0	0	1
Washington State	0	0	1
South			
	Conf.	W	All
	W	L	
Arizona	0	0	1
Arizona State	0	0	1
Alabama	0	0	1
USC	0	0	1
Utah	0	0	1
Colorado	0	0	1

Game of the week: No. 14 USC at No. 13 Stanford. This is a huge game for No. 14 USC, which does not play No. 3 Oregon this season. It's also a big one for No. 13 Stanford — a 45-0 winner over UC Davis in its opener — which does play the Ducks. It's also a game USC and Stanford would probably prefer to play later in the season. "I don't think either of us would choose this," Stanford coach David Shaw said, "but it's an early test and it doesn't spell the whole — what's going to happen the entire season."

Inside the numbers: In Southern Cal's 52-13 win over Fresno State last week, the Trojans ran a Pac-12 record 105 plays.

Player to watch: Taylor Kelly, Arizona State. This week's game is a tight QB battle, he's racked up school records and wins in the desert. First game: 238 yards, TD in first half of 45-14 win over Weber State. Next up for the No. 17 Sun Devils: New Mexico.

SERVICE ACADEMIES



Air Force at Wyoming
Last week: Beat Nicholls State 44-16
Next game: At Georgia State, Sept. 13



Army vs. Buffalo
Last week: Did not play
Next game: At Stanford, Sept. 13



Navy at Temple
Last week: Lost to Ohio State, 34-17, at Baltimore
Next game: At Texas State, Sept. 13

AP TOP 25 SCHEDULE

Saturday's games

- No. 1 Florida State vs. The Citadel
- No. 2 Alabama vs. FAU
- No. 3 Oregon vs. No. 7 Michigan State
- No. 4 Oklahoma at Tulsa
- No. 5 Auburn vs. San Jose State
- No. 8 Ohio State vs. Virginia Tech
- No. 9 Texas A&M vs. Lamar
- No. 10 Baylor vs. Northwestern State
- No. 11 UCLA vs. Memphis
- No. 12 LSU vs. Sam Houston State
- No. 14 Southern Cal at No. 13 Stanford
- No. 15 Mississippi at Vanderbilt
- No. 16 Notre Dame vs. Michigan
- No. 17 Arizona State at New Mexico
- No. 18 Wisconsin vs. Western Illinois
- No. 19 Nebraska vs. McKeesee State
- No. 20 Kansas State at Iowa State
- No. 21 North Carolina vs. San Diego State
- No. 21 South Carolina vs. East Carolina
- No. 23 Clemson vs. South Carolina State
- No. 24 Missouri at Toledo
- No. 25 Louisville vs. Murray State

SEC			
East			
	Conf.	W	All
	W	L	
Florida	0	0	0
Georgia	0	0	0
Kentucky	0	0	1
Missouri	0	0	1
Tennessee	0	0	1
Vanderbilt	0	0	1
South Carolina	0	0	1

West			
	Conf.	W	All
	W	L	
Auburn	0	0	1
Texas A&M	0	0	1
LSU	0	0	1
Mississippi	0	0	1
Mississippi State	0	0	1
Arkansas	0	0	1

Game of the week: No. 15 Mississippi vs. Vanderbilt at LP Field in Nashville, Tenn. Though the Rebels will be favored at the NFL Titans' home field on Saturday, Vanderbilt has won five of the last seven in the series. Ole Miss struggled early before pulling away in a season-opening 35-13 win over Boise State. A convincing win over Vanderbilt would help justify the program's highest ranking since 2009. **Inside the numbers:** Tennessee played 21 true freshmen in a season-opening 38-7 victory over Utah State. It was a school record for a season opener and the highest total of any FBS program in the first week of 2014. **Player to watch: Florida QB Jeff Driskel.** This week's game vs. Eastern Michigan represents Driskel's first since he broke his right leg last September. Florida's chances of rebounding from a 4-8 season are largely dependent on his ability to make a successful comeback.

NFL

Scoreboard

American Conference

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Buffalo	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Miami	0	0	0	.000	0	0
New England	0	0	0	.000	0	0
N.Y. Jets	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Houston	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Indianapolis	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Jacksonville	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Tennessee	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Baltimore	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Cincinnati	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Cleveland	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Pittsburgh	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Denver	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Kansas City	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Oakland	0	0	0	.000	0	0
San Diego	0	0	0	.000	0	0

National Conference

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Dallas	0	0	0	.000	0	0
N.Y. Giants	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Philadelphia	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Washington	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Atlanta	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Carolina	0	0	0	.000	0	0
New Orleans	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Tampa Bay	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Chicago	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Detroit	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Minnesota	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Green Bay	1	0	0	.000	16	36
Seattle	1	0	0	1.000	36	16
Arizona	0	0	0	.000	0	0
San Francisco	0	0	0	.000	0	0
St. Louis	0	0	0	.000	0	0

Thursday's game

Seattle 36, Green Bay 16

Sunday's games

Minnesota at St. Louis

Buffalo at Chicago

Washington at Houston

Tennessee at Kansas City

New Orleans at Atlanta

Cleveland at Pittsburgh

Philadelphia at Philadelphia

Oakland at N.Y. Jets

Cincinnati at Baltimore

New England at Miami

San Francisco at Dallas

Indianapolis at Denver

Monday, Sept. 15

N.Y. Giants at Detroit

San Diego at Arizona

Thursday, Sept. 11

Pittsburgh at Baltimore

Sunday, Sept. 14

Dallas at Tennessee

New England at Minnesota

Miami at Buffalo

Jacksonville at Washington

New Orleans at Atlanta

Cleveland at Pittsburgh

Atlanta at Cincinnati

Detroit at Carolina

San Diego at Tampa Bay

Houston at Oakland

Kansas City at Denver

N.Y. Jets at Green Bay

Chicago at San Francisco

Monday, Sept. 15

Philadelphia at Indianapolis

Thursday

Seahawks 36, Packers 16

Green Bay 7, 3 0 6 - 16

Seattle 34, 14 14 14 36

First Quarter

Sea-FG Hauschka 33, 0-3.

GB-Kuhn 2 run (Crosby kick), 1:25.

Second Quarter

Sea-Lockette 33 pass from Wilson (Hauschka kick), 13:00.

GB-FG Crosby 23, 6:52.

Sea-Lynch 9 run (Hauschka kick), 3:41.

Third Quarter

Sea-FG Hauschka 20, 10:28.

Sea-McDaniel safety 4:42.

Fourth Quarter

Sea-Lynch 3 run (Hauschka kick), 14:55.

GB-Cobb 3 pass from A.Rodgers (pass failed), 5:31.

Sea-Coleman 15 pass from Wilson (Hauschka kick), 2:31.

A-68,424.

GB

Sea

First downs 19 25

Total Net Yards 295 398

Rushes-yards 21-80 37-207

Passing 175 191

Completions 10 11

Interceptions 0 0

Comp-Att-Int 23-31-0 19-28-0

Fumbles-Yards Lost 3-14 -10

Turnovers 4-38 3-10

Sacked-Yards Lost 1-1 2-10

Time of Possession 26:40 33:20

Individual Statistics

Rushing-Green Bay, Stars 7:37, Lacy 12:34, Harris 1:7, Kuhn 1:2. Seattle, Lynch 10:10, Harvin 4:4, Wilson 7:29, Turbin 6:27.

Passing-Green Bay, A.Rodgers 23-33-1:19, Seattle, Lynch 19-28-0:191.

Cobb 6-58, Quaresima 1-8, Lacy 3-11, Stars 2-11. Seattle, Harvin 7-59, Miller 3-14, Lockette 2-38, Coleman 1-15, Lynch 1-14, Kearse 1-8, Wilson 1-1.

Missed Field Goals-None.

Manning calm, cool for rematch

Denver QB says last year's game in Indianapolis 'was different'

The Associated Press

The last time he faced his former team, Peyton Manning's emotions and the Indianapolis Colts both got the best of him.

Manning shouldn't be nearly as drained or distracted when the Colts visit the Denver Broncos on Sunday in the NFL's opening round.

Colts owner Jim Irsay isn't getting under his skin with talk about how disappointed he was to win just one Super Bowl with Manning.

And the five-time MVP doesn't have to trouble himself with a pre-game tribute or Robert Mathis, for that matter. Mathis, the league sacks leader last year with 19½, including two of Manning in the 39-33 win last October, was suspended for the first four games for violating the league doping policy.

"Well, it was different last year going back to Indianapolis," Manning said coolly.

But his Broncos are dealing with drama, too. Receiver Wes Welker and Pro Bowl kicker Matt Prater, who combined to score 210 points last season, are serving four-game banishments.

Manning still has enough weapons, but the Colts have been on the rise ever since Manning was replaced there by Andrew Luck.

"To be honest, even since day one here, it hasn't been an issue. I never came in saying, 'Oh, I



SAM RICHE/MCT

Indianapolis quarterback Andrew Luck, left, and Denver quarterback Peyton Manning shake hands after their game on Oct. 20, 2013 in Indianapolis. Luck's Colts beat Manning's Broncos 39-33.

have to replace a legend, one of the greatest of all time." Luck said. "Professional sports people, they come and they go. Someone's going to replace me eventually, hopefully later rather than sooner."

Broncos vs. Colts is the only weekend matchup of 2013 division winners, but the schedule has been juiced up with division rivalries.

New England is at Miami in a very early AFC East showdown, while the entire AFC North faces off, with Cincinnati at Baltimore and Cleveland at Pittsburgh. The NFC South has the same setup, with New Orleans at Atlanta and Carolina at Tampa Bay.

"It's a great opportunity for us to have another growing step," Bengals left tackle Andrew Whitworth said of visiting Baltimore, where Cincinnati has dropped its past three games.

Tom Brady remembers New England's trip to Miami last December, although he'd prefer to forget it: A 24-20 defeat.

Miami's revamped offensive line, coming off the bullying scandal, will be a focal point.

With the New Orleans Saints coming to town, the Atlanta Falcons have a chance to show 2013, their first losing season since 2007, was a fluke.

"They'll have to come up with a running game, better blocking,

and certainly a stingier defense, against their archrivals.

It's a tough assignment, particularly trying to slow the Drew Brees-to-Jimmy Graham combination.

"We want to get that sour taste out of our mouths from last season," Falcons safety William Moore said.

There's a school of thought that the Carolina Panthers are headed downward after a surprise division title, and Tampa Bay under new coach Lovie Smith is ascending.

This opener could reveal plenty, and Panthers quarterback Cam Newton is on the mend from a rib injury.

Opener: Packers QB struggled against Seattle defense

FROM BACK PAGE

33-yard touchdown pass to Ricardo Lockette, and a 15-yard TD pass to Derrick Coleman in the fourth quarter. Wilson finished 19-for-28 for 191 yards.

Rodgers struggled as the Packers were held to 255 total yards, the third-fewest for Green Bay since the start of the 2012 season. Rodgers was 23-for-37 for 189 yards and was isolated to one side of the field. He looked almost exclusively for Jordy Nelson matched up against Byron Maxwell and never threw in Richard Sherman's direction.

Here's what we learned from Seattle's impressive debut:

Beast mode: Despite holding out from the first week of training camp and getting limited carries during the preseason, Lynch doesn't appear to be on the verge of a drop-off. Seattle punished the middle of Green Bay's defensive front with Lynch regularly not



SCOTT ERLING/AP

Seattle Seahawks quarterback Russell Wilson looks to pass during the second half Thursday in Seattle.

getting hit until he was past the line of scrimmage. He averaged 5.5 yards per carry and recorded his 20th 100-yard game since the start of the 2011 season.

Deep enough: The Packers

don't seem concerned that the left knee injury suffered by right tackle Bryan Bulaga in the second quarter will be a major setback. But it's clear the drop-off to backup Derek Sherrod was significant. Seattle picked on Sherrod in the second half with Cliff Avril getting a key fourth-down sack to stop a Green Bay drive in Seattle territory and later Bennett's sack and forced fumble that ended up being recovered by Sherrod in the end zone for a safety.

The Harvin effect: Everyone knew Seattle was going to use Harvin in a variety of ways and they were all on display in the first half. Harvin was used on quick screens, fly sweeps, in traditional wide receiver patterns and he even lined up next to Wilson as a running back at one point.

Harvin finished with 11 offensive touches for 100 combined yards. He had seven receptions for 59 yards and four rushes for 41.

Unlucky Lacy: The talk for Green Bay was while they were going to play more up-tempo on offense it would also be more balanced with Eddie Lacy entering his second season. Lacy was essentially a non-factor, getting held to 34 yards rushing on 12 carries and leaving in the fourth quarter with a concussion. Take away his longest run of 15 yards and Lacy had 11 carries for 19 yards.

Punt safety: With the departure of Golden Tate in the offseason, who would take over returning punts was one of Seattle's big questions entering the season.

Earl Thomas did little to ease worries about that position in the opener.

Thomas returned his first punt 3 yards, then fumbled the second when Green Bay's Davon House was blocked into Thomas by Richard Sherman. It was a ball that Thomas likely should have called for a fair catch but took the risky chance in traffic.

SPORTS



Returns to semifinals
 Federer erases two match points,
 rallies from two sets down | **Page 25**

NFL



SCOTT EKLUND/AP

Seattle wide receiver Ricardo Lockette celebrates after his first-half touchdown against Green Bay during Thursday's season opener in Seattle.



SCOTT EKLUND/AP

Seattle defensive end Michael Bennett, left, forces Green Bay quarterback Aaron Rodgers to fumble during the second half.

What we learned

Seahawks unveil banner, pound Packers in opener

By **TIM BOOTH**
The Associated Press

SEATTLE — The ceremony was brief, lasting less than 10 minutes. The Seattle Seahawks celebrated the accomplishment of winning their first Super Bowl title last season, unveiling the championship banner and giving their fans one more opportunity to savor the feat.

Then it was over, and the process of trying to repeat started in impressive fashion with a 36-16 romp over Green Bay on Thursday night.

Marshawn Lynch ran for 110 yards and two touchdowns, Percy Harvin had 100 combined yards rushing and receiving, and the Seahawks dominated Aaron Rodgers and the Packers.

Their effort against the Green Bay — a popular pick to contend in the NFC — will only reinforce the belief Seattle is still the favorite in the conference.

"We got a lot of playmakers just looking to get the ball," Harvin said. "Every time we get a chance, we're definitely looking to make the most of it."

Wilson was outstanding in the first half, including a

SEE OPENER ON PAGE 31

By the numbers

207

Number of rushing yards gained by Seattle in Thursday's season-opening victory over Green Bay.

8

Number of receivers to whom Seattle quarterback Russell Wilson completed passes.

110

Number of yards gained by Marshawn Lynch, who led Seattle in rushing and scored two touchdowns.

SOURCE: The Associated Press